Third Series, No.34

Wednesday, March 25, 1964
Chaitra 5, 1886 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Seventh Session
(Third Lok Sabha)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

New Delhi

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*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 25, 1964/Chaitra 5, 1886 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Central Pool of Technical Teachers

+

*734. **Shri Daji:**
Shri Warior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri Karni Singhji:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 655 on the 18th December, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the scheme to constitute a central pool of technical teachers has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Not yet, Sir.

Shri Daji: What is the general idea before this Ministry? It was mooted by this Ministry. What are the general ideas?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The general idea is clear: to have a central pool of teachers out of which we will be able to assist various technical institutions when they want assistance.

Shri Daji: Shall we also make an effort to get back our technical personnel who are Indian nationals serving abroad?

Shri M. C. Chagla: As I have already pointed out, we have a scientific pool and every one serving abroad can come back and be put on the scientific pool and can draw a salary till he is placed in some institution. That is working fairly effectively.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : देश के अन्दर टेकनिकल टीचर्स की कमी है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उस की पूर्ति के लिये सरकार क्या विचार कर रही है ।

श्री मु० क० चागला : हम यह विचार कर रहे हैं कि ज्यादा टीचिंग इन्स्टिट्यूशन्स स्टार्ट करें और ज्यादा टीचर्स को ट्रेन करें ।

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि इस विषय में अभी कोई अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं लिया गया । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि अभी तक जो विचार हुआ है वह कहां पर आ कर रुका हुआ है और कब तक अन्तिम निर्णय लिया जायगा ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: I believe there is some difficulty with regard to finance: Finance has not cleared the scheme; as soon as the scheme is cleared by Finance, steps will be taken. I do not expect any very long delay.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि टेकनिकल टीचर्स को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए या उन की संख्या में बढ़ोतरी करने के लिये क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से कुछ सहायता दी जायेगी ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: Yes, Sir; we will give to the States and the States will help us in training more teachers.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Apart from the technical teachers who are abroad, may I know whether Government is also considering to bring back those teachers who went abroad for higher training if they want to come back to India? Will they be provided with jobs or will anything else be done?

Mr. Speaker: The same question was answered, or a similar question.

Shri Daji: No, Sir; that question was about scientific teachers; this is about humanities.

Shri M. C. Chagla: We are expanding the pool and we propose to include humanities also.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : राष्ट्रपति जी ने जो उन का गर्मियों में शिमले में रहने का स्थान था उस को टीचर्स की ट्रेनिंग के लिये दे दिया था । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उस स्थान पर टीचर्स की ट्रेनिंग हो रही है या नहीं ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: We have, what I may call, a rather ambitious scheme about the President's residence in Simla. We want to have an institution there where topmost scholars in India would come and collect together—something like the Princeton University of the United States. The scheme has not yet been worked out.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What categories of teachers will constitute the Central pool of technical teachers and will they be teachers fit for higher secondary schools or for junior colleges or universities?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The scheme envisages recruitment of about 500 teachers at various levels—grade I professors, grade II assistant professors, and grade III lecturers. We have also proposed what pays these categories should get.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether any assessment has been made regarding the requirements of teachers during the Third Plan and if so, how many teachers are going to be trained out of that target?

Shri M. C. Chagla: As far as I know, the shortage is about 40 per cent. I have not got the exact figures. There is a fairly considerable shortage.

श्री शिव नारायण : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि इस में रुपये की कमी है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि कितने रुपये की कमी है और कितने फाइनेन्सेज आप को चाहियें । क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या वह आप अभी दे देंगे ।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know how the terms and conditions of service of these teachers in the Central Pool will differ from those of other teachers serving elsewhere, and whether you are not creating two classes?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The Union Government should be a model employer and the scales we are fixing are model scales. If we fix model scales, it would encourage others also to raise the salaries of their teachers.

Commonwealth Universities Conference

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*735. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Dhaon:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imposed restrictions on the number

of Vice-Chancellors who could attend Commonwealth Universities Conference in U.K.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have received any representation in this respect?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The need for economy in expenditure on foreign travel during the present National Emergency.

(c) Yes, Sir.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि क्या क्राइटीरिया रक्खा गया है, किन को भेजा जायेगा और किन को कम किया गया है ।

श्री म० क० चागला : यहां पर "भेजा जायेगा" की बात नहीं है, जिन को भेजा जाना था उन की बात है । जब कामनवेल्थ कांफरेंस हुई थी तब सात वाइस चांसलर्स को भेजा गया था । अगर माननीय सदस्य फ्यूचर के बारे में पूछते हैं तो यहां उस का सवाल नहीं है ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्राइटीरिया क्या था ।

श्री म० क० चागला : क्राइटीरिया था । एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर ने उन को सेलेक्ट किया था और सात आदमियों को भेजा गया था ।

Shri Hem Barua: Is that the criterion?

Mr. Speaker: What considerations were kept in view in making the selections?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am not in a position to say. It is a personal choice of my predecessor. I am not in a position to answer.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं उन साहबों के नाम जान सकता हूं ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: (1) Dr. A. L. Mudaliar, Vice-Chancellor, Madras University; (2) Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University; (3) Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar, Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University; (4) Shri D. C. Pavate, Vice-Chancellor, Karnatak University; (5) Dr. A. C. Joshi, Vice-Chancellor, Panjab University; (6) Dr. T. Sen, President, Inter-University Board and Rector, Jadhavpur University; and (7) Shri Badurddin Tyabji, Vice-Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस सेलेक्शन में कोई पोलिटिकल शर्त तो नहीं थी ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा कि यह उन के प्रेडेसेसर का सेलेक्शन था और वह नहीं जानते कि उन के मन में उस वक्त क्या क्या चीजें थीं ।

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन सात आदमियों का सेलेक्शन किया गया था क्या उन को इसलिए चान्स नहीं मिला कि फारेन एक्स्चेंज की कमी थी या कोई और कारण था ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह भी उन्होंने बतला दिया ।

Shri Hem Barua: He said that his predecessor did it and therefore he does not know it. Is this the proper reply?

Mr. Speaker: It was just enquired as to what considerations weighed with him at that time, and he stated that it was the personal selecion of his predecessor. How can he say anything further in the matter?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: A very important point arises from what Shri Hem Barua asked. Is it a personal affair of the Minister? Is it not a decision taken at the Ministry level in consultation with those who are concerned with it?

Mr. Speaker: There is a large number, and selection of a few has to be made out of them. On account of the paucity of funds, he must apply his mind and do it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Sir, for the future guidance of the House also, I should like to know this. Can a Minister be permitted to take cover under the plea that his predecessor did something or, is it only to this particular case that your remark applies?

Mr. Speaker: It is not a matter of any fact that might be there in the file or in the records which he can answer. For questions such as what considerations weighed with him, who made the selection, etc., there cannot be anything on the record. Seven persons had beeen taken. There was a large number. The funds could not allow all of them to be sent. Therefore, he selected some seven persons.

Shri Ranga: He could have asked for notice because he does not have the information.

Mr. Speaker: There is nothing in the record.

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Hem Barua: Is not Government a continuing affair?

Mr. Speaker: It is; even if he had done it he could not have told him. Shri Kashi Ram Gupta.

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : क्या रेकार्ड के ऊपर ऐसी कोई बात है कि किसी वाइस चान्सेलर को माननीय मंत्री के पहले साथी ने जाने के लिए लिखा हो और उन्होंने इन्कार किया हो ?

श्री मु० क० चागला : जहां तक मुझे खबर है, किसी ने इन्कार नहीं किया ।

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : यह रिकार्ड में भी आया है या नहीं ?

श्री मु० क० चागला : रिकार्ड पर तो कुछ नहीं है कि किसी को जाने को कहा गया था और उस ने इन्कार कर दिया ।

Shri Swell: Out of 53 Vice-Chancellors in the country, only 7 have been selected to attend this conference. May I know whether the Minister, in making these selections, received the consensus of opinion of the other Vice-Chancellors?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The fact is that the Inter-University Board of the Vice-Chancellors' Conference was not consulted. As far as I know, it was the personal choice of my predecessor. That is all I can say.

डा० गोविन्द दास : अभी मंत्री जी ने जिन सात लोगों के नाम बतलाए उन से यह पता चलता है कि हिन्दी भाषा भाषी क्षेत्रों के विश्वविद्यालयों से कोई नहीं भेजा गया, इसका क्या कारण है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा कि परसोनल चाइस थी । अब वह इसमें क्या कहेंगे ।

तकनीकी शिक्षा पाने वाले विद्यार्थी

***७३७. श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद् ने हाल में ही हुई नई दिल्ली की बैठक में इंजीनियरिंग कालेजों और पोलीटेक्नीकों में छात्रों की संख्या बढ़ाने की सिफ़ारिश की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) उक्त बैठक में अन्य किन बातों पर विचार किया गया ?

शिक्षा मन्त्री (श्री म० क० चागला): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है ।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) जी हां । अखिल भारतीय परिषद् ने सिफारिश की है कि तीसरी पंचवर्षीय आयोजना में इंजीनियरी और टैक्नालाजी की पहली डिग्री के कोर्सों के लिए २०,००० दाखिलों का जो लक्ष्य रखा गया है उसे बढ़ा कर २५,००० दाखिले कर दिया जाए । डिप्लोमा कोर्सों का लक्ष्य ४०,००० दाखिलो से बढ़ा कर ५०,००० दाखिले कर दिया जाए । ये बढ़े हुए लक्ष्य मुख्यत: मौजूदा इंस्टीट्यूशनों की क्षमता को बढ़ा कर प्राप्त किए जायेंगे ।

(ग) अखिल भारतीय परिषद् की दूसरी खास खास सिफारिशें नीचे दी जाती हैं :—

(१) पोलीटेक्नीकों के अध्यापकों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार को तुरन्त चार रीजनल टेक्नीकल टीचर्स ट्रेनिंग इंस्टीट्यूट बनाने चाहियें ।

(२) इंस्टीट्यूशनों में अध्यापकों की भारी कमी को पूरा करने और रिजर्व फोर्स के रूप में काम करने के लिए तकनीकी अध्यापकों का एक केन्द्रीय पूल बनाया जाना चाहिये ।

(३) तकनीकी इंस्टीट्यूशनों में दाखिले के बारे में अधिवास या देशीयता का बंधन नहीं होना चाहिये । बल्कि दाखिला योग्यता के आधार पर होना चाहिये । दूसरे राज्यों के ज्यादा से ज्यादा छात्रों को दाखिल करना चाहिये ।

(४) तकनीकी अध्ययन की मौजूदा परीक्षा-प्रणाली के पुनरीक्षण के प्रश्न की जांच एक अध्ययन बोर्ड द्वारा कराई जाये, ताकि उस में सुधार सुझाये जा सकें ।

(५) तकनीकी शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण के सभी पहलुओं पर लगातार अनुसंधान किया जाता रहे, इस के लिये एक केन्द्रीय अनुसन्धान इंस्टीट्यूट बनाई जाए ।

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : इस विवरण को देखने से मालूम होता है कि अखिल भारतीय परिषद् ने इस बात की सिफारिश की है कि दाखिले के मामले में देशीयता का बन्धन न हो, योग्यता को आधार माना जाए । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जितने विश्वविद्यालय या टैक्नीकल इंस्टीट्यूट हैं उन में से कितने इस का पालन कर रहे है और जो नहीं कर रहे हैं वे भी इस का पालन करें, इसके लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: We are trying to make all Institutes which are run by the Centre bring run on an all-India basis and students taken from all over India.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : तकनीकी शिक्षा के विस्तार का जो निर्णय सरकार ने लिया है वह तो बड़ा अच्छा है । लेकिन क्या सरकार ने इस बात का भी ध्यान रखा है कि टैक्नीकल शिक्षा का जो स्तर गिरता जा रहा है इस का कारण अध्यापकों की कमी है, किसी भी इंस्टीट्यूट में अध्यापकों की पर्याप्त संख्या नहीं है ? अध्यापकों की इस कमी को दुर करने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: That is a State question. The question of teachers is a handicap and we are trying to solve it. I appreciate what the hon. Member says.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: In the statement it is stated that four Regional Technical Teachers Training Institutes are proposed to be opened by the Government. May I know when and where the Government propose to open these institutes?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The All India Council has recommended that the

Central Government should set up immediately four Regional Technical Teachers Training Institutes for the training of teachers. In pursuance of this recommendation, a broad outline has been prepared for the institutes and sent to the Planning Commission for approval. We are anxious to start these institutes in the course of 1964-65. Where they will be opened, I am afraid I am not in a position to say.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : क्या यह सही है कि केन्द्र द्वारा जो इंजीनियरिंग कालिज चलाये जाते हैं, उन में प्रवेश पाने के लिये जो कम्पिटीशन होते हैं, उन में जो विद्यार्थी बैठते हैं उन को विभिन्न विषयों में जो नम्बर दिए जाते हैं उन की सूचना नहीं दी जाती ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: I do not know, but I take it that each student makes an application for the marks.

श्री बड़े : क्या यह बात सच है कि अभी इस मीटिंग में पालीटैक्नीक पर विचार विनिमय हुआ, और आप की जो ओपिनडोर पालिसी है उस के अन्तर्गत कितने केसेज आप के पास पेंडिंग हैं, इस का कुछ विवरण देने की कृपा करें, विशेषत: मध्य प्रदेश के बारे में ।

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know how many applications are pending for the starting of new polytechnic institutes.

Shri M. C. Chagla: The Plan provides for the establishment of 91 polytechnics, and in the first three years of the Plan 49 polytechnics were started by the State Governments. We are anxious to start as many more polytechnics as possible. If the States apply for them we will certainly deal with those applications with the greatest sympathy. I cannot tell you now how many applied and how many are pending.

श्री बड़े : मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि मीटिंग में इस पर विचार हुआ या नहीं ?

श्री कछवाय : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि टैक्नीकल शिक्षा के कालिजों में शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट वालों के लिए कितनी सीटें रिजर्व हैं, और उन में कितने शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के विद्यार्थी पढ़ रहे हैं ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have not got the figures here relating to the Scheduled Castes.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether existing engineering colleges are also being converted into regional engineering colleges; if so, which are those; if not, why not?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have not got the figures here.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Is it a fact that as a consequence of the reappraisal of the employment position of the engineering graduates it has been found that a large number of them are unemployed and a statement has been issued to the effect that further admission into engineering colleges should be restricted which means that new colleges need not be started?

Shri M. C. Chagla: We want to start new engineering colleges. I do not think it is correct that graduates turned out by these colleges do not find employment. I think a very large number do get employment.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: Sir, the other day, the hon. Home Minister, while answering a similar question as put by the hon. Member, Shri Thirumala Rao, did accept that there were some States where engineer who are well qualified are not able to find employment, because the education that they received and the appointments which they seek . . .

Mr. Speaker: Now she must come to the question.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I would like to know whether this matter has received the attention of the Education Ministry. I would like to know whether there are engineers who are

not able to find suitable jobs and there are also jobs for which suitable candidates are not available, and if that is the position what steps they are taking to remedy the situation?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The problem very often is this. There are jobs and there are regional considerations. There are jobs but the graduates do not like those jobs and they want other jobs. There are these difficulties in the way of employment.

Archaeological Excavations in Ganganagar

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*738. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Anjanappa:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that excavations at Kalibanga in Ganganagar District (Rajasthan) have brought to light definite system of town planning practised here as at Harappa and Mohanjodaro;

(b) whether the materials discovered indicate the period during which this system grew up and continued;

(c) whether further excavations near Bharatpur have revealed the existence of civilisation in several successive stages; and

(d) if so, the period to which they refer?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The material discovered relate roughly to the period between 2200 B.C. and 1800 B.C.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The lowest level dates back to about 1000 B.C. and the highest level to medieval times.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Is it a fact that human skulls also have been found in those excavations; if so, may I know what is the estimated date to which these skulls relate?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I think I have given the dates in my answer.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: I want to know the date to which the human skulls that have been found there relate.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I do not know about the human skulls, but whatever has been found has been dated and the date is between 2200 B.C. and 1800 B.C.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Was the excavation carried on in collaboration with any foreign university; if so, which is that university?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The one excavation which is being carried on with foreign collaboration is the excavation near Bharatpur which is being done in callaboration with the University of California.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : खुदाई के सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार का कितना धन व्यय हुआ है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am not in a position to give that answer.

श्री विभूति मिश्र: मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस खुदाई से जो हमें सामान मिला है उस का भारतीय इतिहास पर क्या असर पड़ा है और क्या उस में कोई सुधार होने जा रहा है ?

श्री मु० क० चागला : जो कुछ भी चीजें डिस्कवर होती हैं वे भारतीय इतिहास के ऊपर असर करती हैं । यह भी अपना भारतीय इतिहास है कि यह सिविलिजेशन भारत में थी ।

Shri P. K. Deo: I want to know if some terracotta seals have been found with Hieroglyphics inscriptions and, if so, have the inscriptions been deciphered?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I do not know about it. What has been discovered is

mostly about the lay-out of the towns and the lay-out of roads.

Shri P. K. Deo: My question was slightly different.

Shri M. C. Chagla: What has been discovered relates to the way the houses are built, the method of building houses and the bricks used. Perhaps, I did not understand the question.

Shri P. K. Deo: I want to find out if some terracotta seals have been discovered with Hieroglyphics inscriptions and, if so, whether the inscriptions have been deciphered.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I would like to have notice for that.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Could I know if the Government contemplates the publication of material in a popular form regarding the significance of these archaeological findings which have been made in different parts of the country?

Shri M. C. Chagla: That is a very good suggestion. I will pass it on to the Archaeological department and, I am sure, it will be carried out.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: May I know whether these excavations will be protected under the Ancient Monuments Act and whether the operations are still going on in those places?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The excavations are still going on.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: Will they be protected under the Ancient Monuments Act?.

Shri M. C. Chagla: If they are considered to be monuments and they come within the definition in the Act, they will certainly be protected.

श्री ब्रज बिहारी मेहरोत्रा : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि पुरातत्व विभाग में चूंकि पर्सनल की कमी है इस कारण पूरा पूरा काम नहीं हो पाता है ?

श्री म० क० चागला : मुझे मालूम नहीं है कि ऐसी कुछ डैफिशिएंसी वहां पर है ।

श्री शिव नारायण : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि खुदाई से जो सामान मिला है वह किस काल का है ?

श्री म० क० चागला : मैं ने बतला तो दिया ।

Meeting of Chief Ministers

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*739. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey;**
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah;
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad;
Shri P. R. Chakraverti;
Shri Onkar lal Berwa;
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri;

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Chief Ministers of all States was convened recently to discuss about the implementation of policy on official language; and

(b) if so, the main point discussed and decisions taken?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) The main issues discussed were—

(i) measures to be taken for the propagation of Hindi and

(ii) introduction of Hindi as an alternative medium for the All India and higher Central Services examination. It was agreed generally (i) that steps should be taken for strengthening the existing arrangements for the propogation of Hindi, and the Cen-

tral Government should provide more funds for this purpose; and (ii) that Hindi might be introduced as an optional medium for the All India and higher Central Services examination with effect from the examination to be held in September 1965 provided necessary methods and techniques are devised meanwhile for maintaining uniform standards in the valuation of answer books written in English and Hindi.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : क्या इस पर भी विचार किया गया है कि सरकारी जो कर्मचारी हैं उन्हें हिन्दी की टाइपराइटिंग और शौर्टहैंड सिखाने के लिए भी प्रोत्साहन दिया जाये ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री हाथी) : जी हां ।

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : करीब ४० फ़ीसदी लौन स्टैचुटरी नोटिफिकेशंस और ऐडवरटाइजमेंट्स भारतवर्ष की गजट मे जो इंग्लिश में प्रकाशित होते हैं वह हिन्दी में भी प्रकाशित हों क्या इस सम्बंध मे भी उस मीटिंग में विचार हुआ था ।

श्री हाथी : इस मीटिंग में इस बारे में विचार नहीं किया गया ।

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : वर्तमान बिना विभाग के मंत्री जब गृह मंत्री थे तो उन्होंने राज भाषा विधेयक के अवसर पर यह आश्वासन दिया था कि हिन्दी सम्बंधी निर्णय को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए एक स्थायी समिति बनाई जायेगी तो क्या इस बैठक में इस पर विचार किया गया और क्या सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में कोई एक स्थाई समिति बनाने के सम्बंध में निर्णय ले रही है, यदि हां, तो कब तक ?

श्री हाथी : इस मीटिंग में जो खास कर बातचीत हुई वह पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन में ओप्शनल तौर पर हिन्दी मीडियम को भी रखने के बारे में हुई । इस बारे में खास तरीके से विचार किया गया ।

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: In the context of the three-language formula accepted by the Madras Government —Tamil, English and Sanskrit—what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

Shri Hathi: For the All India Services this is not accepted.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जैसे कि प्रधान मंत्री ने कई बार यह कहा है कि विशेष रूप से जो हिन्दी भाषी राज्य हैं उनको केन्द्र के साथ और अपने राज्यों में हिन्दी में पत्र व्यवहार या दूसरे कार्य करने मे कोई किसी प्रकार की आपत्ति नहीं होनी चाहिए तो क्या मुख्य मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में इस बारे मे भी विचार किया गया था, यदि हां तो उसमें किस निर्णय पर पहुंचे ?

श्री हाथी : नहीं इस बारे में चर्चा नहीं की गई थी । चर्चा तो खास कर एग्जामिनेशंस के मीडियम के बारे में हुई थी ।

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether any difficulties were expressed by the Chief Ministers of non-Hindi-speaking States at this conference in regard to the implementation of the scheme in September 1965 as suggested by the hon. Home Minister if so, whether Government will revise the scheme in the light of these difficulties that may be experienced in the non-Hindi-speaking States?

Shri Hathi: The difficulties were expressed by both the sides. The non-Hindi-speaking States said that if the candidates are allowed to write their replies in Hindi also it may be that the Hindi-knowing people may be able to express themselves better. On the other hand, it was also said that all the technical literature and books are not yet published in Hindi as elaborately as they have been published in English and, therefore, although it

may be possible for the Hindi-knowing people to express themselves better, the contents may not be as rich as those expressed in English. On the whole, therefore, it was decided that we should evolve a method of moderation so that there is no disadvantage on either side. That was the main thing. We have to evolve that technique and method of moderation of various replies that are given in different languages.

डा० गोविन्द दास : अभी मंत्री जी ने कहा कि मुख्य मंत्रियों के इस सम्मेलन में दो विषयों पर बातचीत हुई । बाक़ी के जो विषय हैं और जोकि सन् १९६० में राष्ट्रपति के आदेश में निकले हैं उनके सम्बंध में क्या हो रहा है ? दूसरे सन् १९६५ के बाद जब हिन्दी वैकल्पिक रूप से माध्यम बन जाने वाली है तो उसके लिए उपयुक्त ग्रंथ आदि के निर्माण के सम्बंध में सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब सारी जनरल पालिसी हिन्दी के डेवेलपमेंट के बारे में यहां पर डिस्कस नहीं की जा सकती है । यह मौजूदा सवाल तो चीफ़ मिनिस्टर्स की कान्फ्रेंस का है ।

Shri A. P. Jain: May I have some broad outline of the scheme of moderation which has been accepted?

Shri Hathi: Actually, that is a matter which is yet to be discussed. The method of moderation has to be evolved. It was decided that after this method is evolved the Chief Ministers will meet again. Because, the main objection is that if different people reply in different languages, it may be that standards may differ according to the language; therefore, this method has to be evolved and we should be satisfied that there is a complete . . . (*Interruption*).

Shri A. P. Jain: Everything is tentative.

Shri Hathi: No method has yet been evolved.

डा० गोविन्द दास : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे एक प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिला ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब और नहीं ।

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The Parliamentary Committee on language in 1958 has recommended that at the time when Hindi is introduced as the medium of examination in the UPSC and similar examinations, an effort should be made to see that by moderation other Indian languages, and not English, should also be introduced for the same purpose. May I know if Government has disregarded that recommendation or is making some effort in that direction?

Shri Hathi: That question was also generally discussed, but it was the view that if in the All India Services examination all the regional languages are also allowed as media, perhaps the all-India character of the services may not remain.

Shri Ranga: Where is the all-India character?

Shri Hathi: There will be 14 or 15 languages and then the question of moderation will be still more difficult. But this question was discussed.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: My question was this. There was a specific recommendation by that Committee that moderation should be made—at least, efforts should be made—and a report should be presented as to the results. Government seems to have disregarded that recommendation and proceeded only on the basis of Hindi and English being the twin languages for this purpose which is going against the Parliamentary Committee's recommendation. They may do so; but let them say that they are disregarding the Parliamentary Committee's recommendation.

Shri Hathi: As I have said, we are referring to the meeting of the Chief Ministers. As I said earlier,

this question was also taken up, but this was the view expressed.

Shri Ranga: In view of the fact that even as the hon. Minister has himself said that the system of moderation has not yet been developed and they have only one year and six months more before this can be developed and implemented, why is it that Government have taken this unwise decision of fixing a particular date and then saying that from that time onwards, the Hindi-speaking people would be free to answer all the questions in Hindi and the non-Hindi-speaking people would be free to answer only in English and so on? Whom do they want to deceive? Themselves?

Shri Hathi: Government have not taken an unwise decision. Government generally always take wise decisions. The decision is not that it shall be from September, 1965. There is a proviso which reads thus:

> "Provided that the necessary methods and techniques are devised meanwhile for maintaining uniform standards in the valuation of answer-books written in English and Hindi."

There is a proviso added, and that is the wisdom.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The Prime Minister smilingly disagrees. I could see that.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : जिस प्रकार राजभाषा हिन्दी की लिपि देवनागरी है, क्या उसी प्रकार अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं की लिपि भी देवनागरी बनाने के बारे में विचार किया गया है जिस से अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं को हिन्दी के साथ चलने में सुविधा हो सके ?

श्री हाथी : इस मीटिंग में ऐसी कोई बात नहीं हुई ।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि केन्द्र की नौकरियों के लिए इम्तहान में लोग हिन्दी में उत्तर दे सकेंगे । मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जब संविधान के अनुसार और जो राजभाषा विधेयक पारित हुआ है, उसके अनुसार भी हिन्दी १९६५ के बाद मुख्य भाषा बन जायेगी, तो यह प्रश्न कैसे पैदा हुआ है और संविधान तथा उक्त विधेयक की व्यवस्था को पूरा करने के लिए क्या विचार किया गया है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो ब्राड पालिसी का सवाल है ।

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I know whether in the case of those students who prefer to answer in Hindi, sufficient knowledge of English is also insisted upon before they choose to answer in Hindi?

Shri Hathi: There is a compulsory paper in English also.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: It is a very welcome decision that the students will be allowed to answer in Hindi also from 1965. But in regard to this proviso which has been mentioned by the hon. Minister, may I know what particular step has been taken to see that all those conditions are fulfilled, and whether any committee has been formed to lay down those conditions?

Shri Hathi: That was exactly what was decided, namely that steps should be taken to find out the techniques of moderation. We had a discussion with the Chairman of the UPSC, and the experience that the other Public Service Commissions have when they are allowing candidates to answer in different languages will also be taken into account.

Production of Fertilizers

***740. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:** Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state the measures

adopted by Government to step up the production of fertilizers in the country?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): Action is being taken to speed up execution of the projects under construction and step up production in the public sector factories. Licensees in the private sector are also being assisted and encouraged to expedite the implementation of their schemes.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि गोरखपुर के खाद कारखाने में खाद का उत्पादन कब से होगा ?

Shri Alagesan: It is expected to go into production in September, 1967.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: Because there has not been a sort of integration in the thinking of the Ministry of Industry and the Department of Agriculture, and because the needs of agriculture have been understood by the Ministry of Industry, there has been failure of the fertiliser factories, and enough fertiliser has not been found for agriculture. May I know whether Government are going to subsidise the public and private sector fertiliser factories because . . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member should stop with the question. First she has given a preface, and then she has put the question. Then she is giving the reason and the argument. She should put only the question.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I shall finish my question in just one sentence. Government will say that the imported fertilisers are cheaper. My submission is that the imported fertilisers are cheaper because they are subsidised there. If Government subsidise our fertilisers also, they will be cheaper. May I know whether Government are thinking of subsidising the fertiliser industry?

Shri Alagesan: In fact, this question should be addressed to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. But I may tell the hon. Member that we have produced fertilisers in terms of nitrogen to the extent of 2,61,000 tons, and we have also imported during 1963-64, 2,17,000 tons. So, we are trying to meet all the demands in the country with regard to fertilisers.

Shri R. S. Pandey: A fertiliser factory has been sanctioned by Government in the public sector in Madhya Pradesh. What is its progress?

Shri Alagesan: Actually, that factory was licensed in the private sector. Since the licensee surrendered the license, the Fertiliser Corporation of India has taken up the job and is proceeding with it.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Have Government assessed the comparative costs of production in the public sector and the private sector factories? If so, is the cost of production in the public sector higher than that in the private sector? If so, what steps are being taken to bring down the cost of production in the public sector?

Shri Alagesan: We have worked out the cost of production in the public sector. But I do not have the figures with me just now. But I can tell the hon. Member that out of this production of 2,61,000 tons in terms of nitrogen, hardly 30,000 tons are produced in the private sector. The bulk of it is in the public sector.

Shri Vishram Prasad: The hon. Minister said that Gorakhpur factory will start producing fertiliser by September 1967. What will be the cost of production there as compared to Sindri where it is Rs. 370 per ton and the imported fertiliser which is Rs. 200 per ton.

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the figures. I cannot go into them now.

Shri A. P. Jain: What are the targets of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers in the Third Plan, and to what extent, are they expected to be achieved?

Shri Alagesan: The target was 8 lakh tons. I do not have the break-up into nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers.

Shri A. P. Jain: Nitrogenous is 8 lakhs and phosphatic 4 lakhs. They are separate. It is not a question of break-up.

Shri Alagesan: The total production is very much below that.

Shri A. P. Jain: How much of the target has been fulfilled? What are the expectations?

Shri Alagesan: The present estimate is that it will be about 4 to 5 lakh tons.

श्री बलजीत सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि कितने-कितने खाद फ़ैक्टरियों में उत्पादन दुगना करने का प्रोग्राम है और कब तक पूरा कर दिया जायेगा ।

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): There is no question of doubling the capacity. The capacity, as I indicated during my reply to the debate on the Demands for Grants, is being increased. We are taking special measures for increasing the capacity at Sindri. There is a proposal to increase the capacity at Nangal. We are also increasing the capacity at FACT and taking steps about Rourkela.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Considering the fact that a number of private firms licensed to produce fertiliser have not done so, whatever be the reasons, has Government assessed the unused capacity and enhanced production in the public sector to an equivalent extent?

Shri Alagesan: As I said, when a licence in the private sector was surrendered, we have ourselves stepped in. There are certain private sector factories which are going slow. There are two or three other licensees who have asked for time. We have given time to them. In the meanwhile, we have appointed a Planning group. They are going into the matter of taking up new projects.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Have Government assessed the unutilised capacity?

Conversion of Oil Companies into Rupee Companies

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*741. { **Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:** / **Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 651 on the 18th December, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the tentative proposals made by Burmah Shell, Esso and Caltex Oil Companies for conversion of distributing companies into Rupee Companies have since been examined; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Examination of these proposals is still continuing.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know whether the oil companies have also made any proposal regarding Indian participation in their equity share capital, if so, the nature thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The question was about the proposals by Burmah-Shell, Esso and Caltex for conversion of the distribution companies, and in this there were some suggestions that these may be converted into rupee companies and

equity capital would be offered to Indians, but apart from ESSO, none of the others has given any detailed or specific proposals.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know whether Government have any proposal under consideration to nationalise these oil companies; if so, the details thereof?

Shri Humayun Kabir: According to the Industrial Policy Resolution, it has been decided that all future capacity will be in the public sector, but the Industrial Policy Resolution also provides that existing firms will be allowed to continue, and in certain cases under special conditions, they might be even given some permission to expand. So, the question of nationalisation does not arise at this stage.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know why Burmah-Shell and Caltex oil companies are not coming forward with their proposals to convert themselves into rupee companies? What are the factors which are inhibiting them from doing so?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This was an offer made by the companies themselves. They initiated the proposal and said that they would like to convert them. Therefore, I cannot say what is holding them back, but I can only suggest that perhaps they want to link it up with the question of expanding their capacity, and there we are considering the whole question. There is not any likelihood of giving them any expanded capacity at present.

Shri Dhuleshwar Meena: May I know whether these oil companies have incorporated a marketing organisation as an Indian company; if so, the details thereof?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The question was that they wanted to convert them into Indian companies. So, obviously they have not incorporated them as Indian companies.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that Government's attempts to probe into the sources of supply, real cost and margin of profit of these foreign oil companies are being regularly and repeatedly foiled by them, may I know whether this conversion into a rupee company would facilitate the probe, or this proposal has been mooted by the oil companies only to have their market assured in this country?

Shri Humayun Kabir: My hon. friend wants me to tell about the psychology of these companies.

Shri Hem Barua: No, not the psychology.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I am afraid I do not know what the motive is.

Shri Hem Barua: I want to know whether they have made this proposal.....

Mr. Speaker: The last sentence, the last part of the sentence, precludes me from allowing a further question, because he says he cannot give that information.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the relationship between the expansion programme and the conversion into a rupee company, and what is Government's own attitude in the matter?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I thought I had indicated that the Government's view was that expansion would be in the public sector, and especially since we are starting refineries of our own, the question of any expansion for them cannot be considered till we have taken decisions and established our own public sector refineries.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the relationship between the two?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Ministry of Education

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*742. { **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri Murli Manohar:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are afoot to streamline the administrative set-up of the Ministry of Education in the Departments of Education and Scientific Affairs; and

(b) if so, its broad features?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). As an essential prerequisite of rationalisation, the two Departments of Education and Science have already been abolished under the Presidential Order of 29th February, 1964. The question of further streamlining the administrative set up of the Ministry as a whole is under review.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : जब सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के पास संगीत, नाटक, ड्रामा आदि विभाग हैं तो यह जो शिक्षा मंत्रालय के पास कल्चरल सैक्शन है, इस को भी सूचना मंत्रालय से सम्बद्ध करने पर कुछ विचार किया जा रहा है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The Information and Broadcasting Ministry approaches the subject from a point of view different from that of the Education Ministry. We are concerned more with the educational aspect of culture, and they are concerned, if I may say so, from the publicity point of view.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : शिक्षा मंत्रालय का जो पुनर्गठन किया जा रहा है वह स्वयं माननीय मंत्री जी की देखरेख में किया जा रहा है या इसके लिए अलग से कोई समिति बनाई गई है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: Hon. Members know my allergy for committees; I have not set up a committee; I am considering it myself.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या इस पर भी आपने विचार किया है कि कल्चरल प्रोग्राम्ज के ऊपर यह जो लाखों रुपया खर्च होता है, बरबाद होता है, यह शिक्षा के ऊपर और मिलिट्री ट्रेनिंग के काम पर खर्च किया जाए ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर । श्री विश्राम प्रसाद ।

श्री मु० क० चागला : कोई भी खर्च ऐसा करने में नहीं आएगा जो फिजूल खर्च हो ।

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : साइंस की प्रामिनेंस और उस की विशेषता को समझते हुए, मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि शिक्षा मंत्रालय के अन्दर क्या कोई इस तरह का डिपार्टमेंट है जैसे साइंस डिपार्टमेंट ताकि साइंस को ज्यादा प्रामिनेंस मिल सके ? यदि नहीं, तो क्या मंत्रालय इस पर विचार कर रहा है ?

श्री मु० क० चागला : यह मिनिस्ट्री जितना बन पाये उतनी प्रामिनेंस साइंस को देना चाहती है और जो कुछ उसके लिए कर सकती है, करेगी ।

Ending Illiteracy

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*743. { **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Dr. Mahadeva Prasad:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the efforts so far made to end illiteracy including adult illiteracy in the country, State-wise;

(b) the estimated progress to be achieved at the end of the Third Plan period; and

(c) the expenditure so far incurred in that direction and proposed to be incurred during the rest of the Plan period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram

Ramachandran): (a) The outcome of the efforts is that literacy rate which was 16.6 as revealed by 1951 Census went up to 23.7 in 1961 Census. It is expected that with the increase of effort on primary education in the Third Five Year Plan, the percentage of literacy may have gone upto 28 to 30 per cent today. The State-wise break-up is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2583/64].

(b) It is estimated that the percentage of literacy will rise to 35 by the end of the Third Plan period, for India as a whole.

(c) The information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2584/64].

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that an expert from Hyderabad has evolved a new system of alphabets to teach adults and the Government has requisitioned his services to conduct a pilot scheme near Delhi. . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. lady Member gives full details of some information before she comes to the question.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: How are they to know our questions?

Mr. Speaker: The Minister is supposed to know many things. The question may be put direct.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: May I know if he has been requisitioned by the Central Government and if so what are the results?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: I know that not only from Andhra but from Maharashtra also, the educational officers who are taking part in adult education have submitted new methods showing how quickly adults could be taught. But I am not sure whether his services have been requisitioned.

श्री राम सहाय पाण्डेय : अर्द्धशिक्षित और अशिक्षित प्रौढ़ों को शिक्षित करने की जो व्यवस्था नगरों में है, मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या उसी प्रकार की व्यवस्था गांवों में भी की जाएगी ?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: जरूर because a large part of the illiterate people are in the rural areas and this is done by the State Governments. We are trying to get more funds from the Centre to speed up the programme.

Dr. Swell: Is it a fact that the Government is considering a scheme for making it compulsory for every literate person to educate at least one illiterate person annually or to pay a certain amount towards a fund for eradication of illiteracy, in lieu thereof: if not, why not and if, yes, when the scheme is likely to be launched?

Mr. Speaker: Shri Ram Sevak Yadav.

श्री रामसेवक यादव साक्षरता की रफ्तार बहुत धीमी है । क्या मंत्रालय समस्त देश को साक्षर बनाने के लिए किसी योजना पर जिस में कोई तिथि या समय निर्धारित हो, विचार कर रहा है, यदि हां, तो वह योजना क्या है ?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: No target is fixed but we drew up a plan and are implementing it so that at least we could make a substantial increase in the literacy rate by the end of the Third Plan. But funds could not be made available because of the emergency and we have requested the States to go ahead with their own schemes with their own finances as quickly as possible.

Shri Jashvant Mehta: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the census figures of 1951 and 1961 which show that the number of illiterates has increased with the increase in population and that the progress of the removal of illiteracy is not commensurate with the rise in population, and may I know what steps the Govern-

ment taking to cope up with this problem?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: That is one way of looking at it; that the percentage of illiteracy has gone up. But we should keep in mind that the population has gone up at such a rate—

Mr. Speaker: That is what he says.

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Therefore, we are realising the importance of building up. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Those who are born today must be illiterate!

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: According to the statement laid on the Table, you will see that the literacy percentage is going up in spite of the population increase. Perhaps the hon. Member is thinking of Maharashtra. In certain States, after the reorganisation of States, backward areas also have been added. So, in those States, the literacy percentage for the whole of the State is shown a little less. But I can assure hon. Members that we are very much aware of the illiteracy problem and we shall do everything, and we are asking for special funds also.

Shri Jashvant Mehta: Sir, my question was not understood.

Mr. Speaker: I have understood his question.

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन राज्यों में सब से अधिक निरक्षरता है, क्या सरकार ने मुख्य रूप से ऐसे राज्यों की कोई तालिका तैयार की है ? यदि हां तो वह आने वाली पंचवर्षीय योजना में उन के लिए कुछ फंड्स की व्यवस्था करने जा रही है ?

Mr. Speaker: He is asking whether any steps have been taken to give help to those States, where illiteracy is the greatest.

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: The primary education programme is speeded up with the special allocation of funds to those schemes where the primary education programme has not been going on satisfactorily, because this also has a bearing on the literacy percentage, not only adult literacy but overall literacy. Otherwise, each State is taking interest in its own way to speed up the adult education programme to liquidate adult illiteracy.

Shri P. K. Deo: From the statement I find that the States with less than 20 per cent literacy are the Hindi-speaking States—Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. May I know why, in spite of Hindi being our Rashtra Bhasha and in spite of so much being spent for the promotion of Hindi, the State of affairs is like this?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: That is because they have not been able to implement the primary education programme also as much as other States which are a little more progressive. So the States which have been mentioned by the hon. Member are being helped in the primary education programme, but the adult education programme is taken up as a separate subject.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma: May I know whether the Central Government proposes to allot more funds to States which are willing to give free secondary and collegiate education to girls?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: That matter is also known; it has to be taken up separately.

श्री त्रिभुवन मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन एरियाज में स्कूल और कालेज हैं वहां पर जो गांवों में प्रौढ़ लोग अशिक्षित हैं उन को पढ़ाने के लिए क्या सरकार ने कोई संगठन बनाया है ताकि वे गांवों में जा कर पढ़ायें ।

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Yes, Sir. Maharashtra has

shown the way by the Gram Shikshan Samiti; and certain other States also have shown the way, such as Uttar Pradesh through "Literacy House" and so on. So, we are giving this information to other States also, asking them to speed up their literacy programme. But I am sorry to say that it is not going on as fast as it should. That is why they are trying to have a comprehensive plan and getting special funds so that we can help in this programme.

Shri Chandrabhan Singh: May I know whether those who become literates under this scheme become illiterate soon after?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: That is why a plan to follow up by producing books for the new literates is going on, and we are also getting some outside help for that programme.

श्री बड़े : माननीय मंत्री के स्टेटमेंट में है कि मध्य प्रदेश में इल्लिटरेसी ज्यादा बढ़ रही है क्योंकि फंडस की कमी है । वहां के मिनिस्टरों ने इस तरह से कहा है कि —each one teach one—father to daughter, husband to wife and brother to sister—, इसके लिए हमारे फंडस नहीं हैं । क्या इस प्रकार कह देने से मध्य प्रदेश में ऐडल्ट एजुकेशन कम हो रही है ?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: There are figures from which the hon. Member can see. The adult literacy was 9·8 per cent. in 1951 and it has gone up to 16·9 per cent in 1961. Probably it is going up still. Regarding the other suggestions made by the hon. Member, it is the State's job.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : सरकार खुद इस काम को इतना क्यों फैला रही है । इस काम को सरकार अलग अलग अपनी पंचायतों को, अपने डिस्ट्रिक्ट बोर्ड्स को और अपनी स्टेट गवर्नमेंटस को दे कर अपना बोझ हलका क्यों नहीं करती ?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: It has been already decentralised in the sense that in every block, there is a social education organiser whose job is to see that the village community centres also cater to improving the literacy.

Section 87-B of C.P.C.

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*1425. { **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** **Shri Alvares:** **Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** **Shri Shree Narayan Das**

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the observation of the Chief Justice of India in the course of a judgement on the 6th March, 1964 regarding Section 87-B of the Civil Procedure Code; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) Government have taken due note of the observations of the Supreme Court.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know in how many cases such permission to proceed against the former princes was sought and in how many cases permission was given?

Shri Hathi: Perhaps the hon. Member wants to know the figures from 1948 till today. I am sorry I would not have those figures with me.

Dr. L. M. Singvhi: May I know whether there are any criteria for according permission in such matters and if so, what are those criteria?

Shri Hathi: The criteria are generally on the lines suggested by the Supreme Court.

Jammu and Kashmir

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*746. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** / **Shri Yashpal Singh:** / **Shri P. C. Borooah:** }

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has expressed himself in favour of full integration of that State with the rest of the Indian Union by the repeal or abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken towards that end?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) I have seen reports of the Press statement made by Shri G. M. Sadiq.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: After this recent categorical statement of the new Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, are there still any elements or individuals opposed to the complete integration of that State with the rest of the Indian Union and if the answer be in the negative, has the Government asked or do the Government propose to ask the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir to help expedite the process of integration by forwarding the recommendations of the State Assembly, besides the Government's, as required by the proviso to clause (3) of article 370, as soon as possible

The Minister Without Portfolio (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Mr. Sadiq has already made a categorical statement in this regard. It would not be possible, I think, to take up the whole matter concerning article 370 in this very session. The Assembly will perhaps adjourn tomorrow. As the hon. Member might be aware, they are considering two matters. One is the change of name from Prime Minister to Chief Minister and the other in regard to the Governor. But the Bill contains something more than the mere change of nomenclature and it has been referred to the Select Committee. I do not know what will happen tomorrow. But Mr. Sadiq is very particular that he should be able to get through those two amendments.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is there any basis for certain Press reports to the effect that the Government is actively considering, in consultation with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir the release of Sheikh Abdullah, the former Chief Minister and if so . . .

Mr. Speaker: That is not connected with this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: . . .and if so, in view of conflicting reports about his attitude to this question of integration, has the Government tried to ascertain . . . (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I should be given that liberty or discretion to decide.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: That is right, Sir. In view of conflicting reports about his attitude to this question of integration, have Government tried to ascertain what his attitude to this matter is, so as to come to a wise decision and so as not to queer the pitch for integration later on?

Mr. Speaker: That is not the question here.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: How Sir? This is a question about integration.

Mr. Speaker: Not the release.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Because there are reports in the Press, some reports to the effect that he opposes integration and some others that he favours it, has the Government considered this aspect of the matter and tried to ascertain his views?

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Minister answer it?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Does he want to know whether any assessment has been made about . . . .

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether any assessment has been made about the views of Sheikh Abdullah in respect of integration.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: He is in jail. We have not met him, nor have we made any assessment.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the recent statement by Pakistan's Foreign Minister in which he has stated that after the recent debate in the Security Council, the Security Council has indicated to the Government of India that they should not proceed in any way for the integration of Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The Security Council has given no such indication. Well, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan can say anything he likes, but we will pursue our own policy.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि आज कल जो चारों तरफ इडिपेंडेंट काश्मीर का नारा है, इस नारे को दबाने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

अनेक माननीय सदस्य : कहां नारा है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : चारों तरफ ऐसा नारा है, यह बात तो बिल्कुल ही गलत है ।

Shri Abdul Ghani Goni: Article 370 of the Indian Constitution is provisional, temporary and special. In view of the recent statements of the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Shri Chagla, the hon. Shri Shastri and Shri Sadiq, the new Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir . . .

Mr. Speaker: Not such a long question—already the time is over.

An Hon. Member: The Question Hour is over.

Shri Abdul Ghani Goni: The hon. Minister without Portfolio referred to the latest Bill. They have said that this article is in the process of erosion . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Vijnan Mandirs

*736. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vijnan Mandirs have proved useful;

(b) if so, how people are utilising the services of such Mandirs;

(c) whether new Mandirs are proposed to be set up during 1964-65, and if so, the number thereof; and

(d) whether these will be attached to educational institutes?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Yes.

(b) The rural people are utilising the services of Vijnan Mandirs by adopting scientific principles in the different spheres of their daily life, e.g. Health, Sanitation, Food, Agriculture etc. These principles are explained to them by demonstration, lectures, film shows, organising science clubs etc.

(c) With the transfer of the administrative control of the Vijnan Mandirs to the respective State Governments, the establishment of new Vijnan Mandirs will be at the discretion of the State Governments, subject to availability of funds from the Centre.

(d) When the administrative control of Vijnan Mandirs was transferred to the State Governments, it was contemplated that separate entity of Vijnan Mandirs will continue to be maintained.

Explosion in Jammu

*744 { **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey.**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether army experts were called to help the police in the investigation of an incident involving an explosion near Jammu's biggest mosque on the 10th March, 1964; and

(b) if so, in what circumstances and the result of the investigations?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State authorities consulted the Army experts, as usual in such cases, to help in deciding the nature and quantity of the explosive used, etc. Their report in this case shows that the explosive used was either TNT or plastic and the quantity used was about 225 grammes.

Maltreatment of an M.P. in Ambala Jail

*747. { **Shri Nath Pai:**
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a further inquiry has been held into the charges of maltreatment by the Punjab Government of Shri Kachhavaiya, Member of Lok Sabha;

(b) if so, by whom; and

(c) the findings of the inquiry?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The District Magistrate, Ambala, has been deputed by the Government of Punjab to conduct an inquiry in the matter. A report is awaited from the State Government. The State Government on being reminded to send the report of the inquiry have intimated that as the Assistant Medical Officer who is one of the witnesses, is away from Ambala, the inquiry has not yet been completed.

Commonwealth Education Conference in Ottawa

*748. { **Shri Kapur Singh:**
Shri P. H. Bheel:
Shri Narasimha Reddy:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the third Commonwealth Education Conference is to be held in Ottawa in the last week of August, 1964;

(b) if so, whether technical education ad scholarships are scheduled to be the main topics for discussion there; and

(c) the precise advantages India expects to drive from these deliberations?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chogla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tenhnical Education and Commonwelth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan are some of the agenda items which will be discussed.

(c) Cooperation and mutual exchanges between Commonwealth countries in educational matters which is the aim of the Conference are beneficial and necessary as education is a chief constituent of progress in the intellectual and cultural development of a country.

राष्ट्रीय प्रयोगशालायें

*७४९. { **श्री सिदेश्वर प्रसाद :**
श्री प्र० रं० चक्रवर्ती:

क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कई राष्ट्रीय प्रयोगशालाओं के निदेशकों के पद काफी समय से रिक्त हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ये प्रयोगशालायें कौन कौन सी हैं तथा ये पद कब से रिक्त हैं ; और

(ग) इस के क्या कारण हैं ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री म० क० छागला) : (क) कुछ पद खाली हैं ।

(ख) और (ग). एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रखा गया है । [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया, देखिये संख्या एल० टी०-२५८४।६४]

Inventions of Indian Scientists

*750. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:** **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of original discoveries and inventions made by Indian scientists in our National Laboratories since the attainment of Independence; and

(b) the names of the Scientists associated with each one of them?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the National Loboratories and this will be laid on the Table of the House.

Death Penalty for Treason

*751. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 535 on the 11th March, 1964 and the Supplementaries thereon and state:

(a) whether Government propose to prescribe at least during the period of the Emergency, the death penalty for treason, espionage and sabotage;

(b) if so, when legislation to that effect is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) Although the expressions treason and espionage are not used in the statute, activities of that nature and sabotage are made punishable with sentence of death during the period of emergency under Section 5 of the Defence of India Act, 1962 and Section 5 of the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1923 (as amended by Section 6 of the Defence of India Act). Section 121 of the Indian Penal Code also provides for death penalty for waging or attempting to wage or abetment of waging war against the Government of India.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Hazratbal Relict Theft case

*753. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** **Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:**

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Judge has been appointed to try the accused named in the Hazratbal relic theft case;

(b) if so, his name;

(c) whether further investigation has been held with a view to tracing any other culprits; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): (a) to (d). These matters are no doubt receiving the attention of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The question of making the services of a Judge available will be considered when a request is received from the State Government.

Grants to Universities

1492. **Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the cases in which grants were sanctioned by the University Grants

Commission to the Universities concerned but matching grants were not made available during the Third Plan period;

(b) the fate of the schemes sanctioned in such cases;

(c) whether the attention of the Central Government has been drawn on this point of the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellors' Conference held in 1962; and

(d) if so, reaction of the Central Government/University Grants Commission thereto?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It was suggested to the State Governments earlier that they should agree not to draw from the Central Government a certain proportion of development funds which instead should be placed at the disposal of the University Grants Commission to enable them to finance the development schemes of all Universities on a hundred per cent basis. The reaction of the State Governments was generally found unfavourable.

It is not at present possible for the University Grants Commission to provide hundred per cent assistance as recommended by the Vice-Chancellors' Conference without diversion of funds from State sector to the Central sector.

Model Service Rules for Teachers

1493. Shri Sidheshwar Prasad: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chancellors Conference held in October, 1962 suggested that Model Service Rules for the University and College Teachers should be drawn up by the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, whether it has been done and is being followed; and

(c) whether a copy of the Rules will be placed on the Table?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of framing model service rules for University and College Teachers is under the consideration of the University Grants Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

Legislation on Statistics on Births and Deaths

1494. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1366 on the 21st August, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the replies of all the State Governments have been received regarding legislation on statistics on births and deaths; and

(b) when Government propose to introduce the legislation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft of the proposed legislation is now under preparation and it is expected that it would be possible to introduce it during the current Session of Parliament.

University at Salem

1495. Shri Rajaram: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has been approached by the Government of Madras for financial assistance for establishing a University at Salem;

(b) the estimated funds that will be required for the University; and

(c) the amount of grant in the initial period to be made available by the University Grants Commission for

the same and when it will be made available?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise Moreover the University Grants Commission does not provide any financial assistance for the establishment of new Universities. It can give grants for approved development programmes only after a University has been established.

Auditoria in Orissa Schools and Colleges

1496. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for construction of auditoria in various schools and colleges in Orissa during 1963-64 so far;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be given to that State during 1964-65 for the said purpose?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhakt Darshan): (a) Rs. 19,000|-

(b) (i) B.J.B. High School, Khurda —Rs. 9,000|-

(ii) P.M. Academy, Cuttack— Rs. 10,000|-

(c) A balance of Rs. 71,399 remains to be paid in instalments for five projects (including the two mentioned above) sanctioned in Orissa. This will be paid, if and when the conditions laid down, are satisfied.

Welfare of Denotified Tribes in Orissa

1497. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount was sanctioned to Orissa for taking up schemes for the Welfare of Denotified Tribes during 1963-64;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the amount was fully utilised and if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) The scheme-wise break up of the amount allocated to the State Government for the year 1963-64 is as given below:—

Scheme	(Rs. in lakhs) Amount
1. Prematric stipends ..	0.10
2. Residential schools ..	1.10
3. Colonisation ..	0.38
4. Agricultural and Industrial aids ..	0.23
5. Sinking of wells ..	0.30
TOTAL	2.13

(c) The actual expenditure figures upto 31st March 1964 will become available only by the 30th June, 1964. The State Government, however, anticipate to spend Rs. 2.03 lakhs during the current financial year.

Merit Scholarships in Orissa

1498. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance given to Orissa Government for grant of merit scholarships to poor students to continue their University education during 1963-64 under the National Scholarships Scheme; and

(b) the amount spent out of this by the State Government?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Under the National Scholarships Scheme, a grant of Rs. 68,000|- has been made to the Orissa State Government for 1963-64. The scholarships are paid to the candidates whose parental income is below Rs. 1,000 per month.

(b) Amount likely to be disbursed upto 31st March, 1964 is Rs. 62,520|-.

Consumption of Petroleum Products in Orissa

1499. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) the total consumption of petroleum and petroleum products in Orissa during 1963-64; and

(b) the details thereof?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) It is estimated that, during 1963-64, the total consumption of petroleum and petroleum products, in Orissa, will be of the order of 1·28 lakh tonnes.

(b) Details cannot be disclosed in view of the restrictions imposed by the Defence of India Rules.

उत्तर प्रदेश में प्राथमिक शिक्षा

१५००. **श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री ११ सितम्बर, १९६३ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ६१० के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश में प्राथमिक शिक्षा के बारे में केन्द्रीय शिक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड की स्थायी समिति की सिफारिशें इस बीच प्राप्त हो गई हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और उन के सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय किये गये हैं ; और

(ग) विभिन्न राज्यों की प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए अधिक केन्द्रीय सहायता देने के प्रश्न पर क्या निर्णय किया गया है ?

शिक्षा मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्रीमती सौंदरम रामचन्द्रन):

(क) प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए केन्द्रीय शिक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड की स्थायी समिति ने एक अन्तरिम रिपोर्ट पेश की है ।

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश में प्राथमिक शिक्षा के सम्बन्ध में समिति की सिफारिशें निम्नलिखित हैं :—

(i) राज्य सरकार को अपने साधनों के अनुसार पहली और दूसरी कक्षाओं के लिए दो-शिफ्ट प्रणाली अपनानी चाहिए ताकि अधिक से अधिक बच्चे शिक्षा पा सकें ।

(ii) तीसरी योजना में राज्य की प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए स्वीकृत-राशि में ६ करोड़ रुपये की वृद्धि करनी होगी (मूल अनुमानित राशि ३२ करोड़ से बढ़ा कर ३८ करोड़ रुपये) ।

(iii) यदि यह ६ करोड़ रुपये की राशि प्राप्त हो जाए तो १९६४–६५ तथा १९६५–६६ के लिए एक विस्तृत कार्यक्रम तैयार करना संभव हो सकेगा और (क) नए आवश्यक स्कूलों की स्थापना (ख) मौजूदा स्कूलों में अतिरिक्त अध्यापकों की नियुक्ति और (ग) अध्यापकों के वेतन-स्तर में सुधार की व्यवस्था की जा सकेगी ।

१९६३–६४ में अतिरिक्त अध्यापकों की नियुक्ति के लिए ५०.५७ लाख रुपये का अतिरिक्त केन्द्रीय अनुदान उत्तर प्रदेश को दिया गया था । राज्य सरकार ने भी इसके बराबर ही अंशदान दिया है ।

१९६३–६४ के अन्तर्गत नियुक्त अतिरिक्त अध्यापकों के काम पर लगे रहने के लिए (८६ लाख) और अतिरिक्त स्कूल खोलने, लड़कियों की शिक्षा को जारी रखने और अध्यापकों की प्रशिक्षण सम्बन्धी कार्यक्रम का विस्तार करने के लिए (९७ लाख) की १९६४–६५ में व्यवस्था की गई है ।

(ग) शिक्षा से वंचित रहने वाले बच्चों की संख्या के आधार पर १९६३–६४ में सब राज्यों को अतिरिक्त अध्यापक नियुक्त करने के लिए अनुदान दिये गये ।

१९६४–६५ में प्राथमिक शिक्षा के लिए स्थायी समिति की सिफारिशों के अनुसार यथासंभव अधिक राशि उपलब्ध करने की कोशिश की गई थी । यह राशि अलग अलग राज्यों के लिए अलग-अलग है । स्थानीय साधनों की उपलब्धि, दूसरे क्षेत्रों द्वारा मांग आदि कई एक बातों के आधार पर यह राशि निर्धारित की गई है ।

Survey of Border Areas

1501. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board has completed its survey of the border areas; and

(b) if so, its conclusions and the manner in which they are going to be implemented?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) A survey of border areas in N.E.F.A., Kinnaur (Himachal Pradesh), Ladakh (Jammu and Kashmir) and Spiti and Lahaul (Punjab) has so far been conducted.

(b) The study has revealed that the people in these areas have remained isolated from the rest of the country and have not benefitted from the normal developmental programmes being implemented elsewhere. The Central Social Welfare Board's programme of Welfare Extension Projects, providing medical aid, maternity services, balwadi facilities, social education and recreational facilities, has been extended to these areas.

Age Concessions for D.Ps.

1502. Shri Gulshan: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether age concessions for displaced persons would be available for the I.A.S. examinations to be conducted during the current year?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): No Sir.

Survey of Gulf of Cambay

1503. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gulf of Cambay is being surveyed for the exploration of petroleum gas;

(b) if so, how far the survey has been completed; and

(c) how long it will take to complete the survey?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). A seismic survey has been carried out on some of the sand banks in the Gulf of Cambay, which get exposed during the period of low tides and surveys on the portions which remain under water all the time have just started.

(c) It is expected that the reconnaissance seismic survey in the Gulf of Cambay will have been completed by the end of April, 1965.

All India United Schools Organisation

1504. Shri Dhaon:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India United Schools Organization

held a Conference in December, 1963 in Delhi;

(b) if so, the decisions taken in the Conference;

(c) whether the Organisation has put forward any suggestion to Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir. The 13th Annual Conference of the Organization was held in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, from 22nd to 25th December, 1963.

(b) A copy of the Resolution passed at the Coference is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2585/64].

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Audio-Visual Education Committee

1505. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Audio-Visual Education Committee was held in Denember, 1963 in New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the main decisions taken thereat?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the important recommendations of the Board are as follows:

(i) Setting up of a Standing Committee of the National Board of Audio-Visual Education which will go into all the problems connected with the expansion of Audio-Visual Education both at the centre as well as in the States so that by the end of the 4th Plan period, audio-visual facilities and trained personnel could be made available to all educational institutions in the country.

(ii) Setting up of training-cum-production centres at each of the four Regional Training Colleges of the National Institute of Education for training teachers in the production and use of Audio-Visual Aids and the strengthening of the existing State Audio-Visual centres/units for expanding their training and production programmes.

(iii) Mass production of the "School Edition of the Study-kit" the prototype of which has been produced by the National Institute of Audio-Visual Education through private producers and the preparation of the study kits on their own States by the different State A. V. Education Departments. The State Study Kits to be exchanged with other States.

(iv) Conducting of short Term Training Courses by the National Institute of Audio-Visual Education in the production of low cost visual aids on the pattern of UNESCO workshop conducted in the Institute during 1961-62.

(v) Introduction of technical training courses for training teachers in repairing and maintenance of Audio Visual equipment by the National Institute of Audio-Visual Education and the State audio-visual sections.

(vi) Establishment of A. V. Centres and film Libraries at University Levels.

(vii) Bringing of all Audio-Visual equipment in line with "Scheduled Industries" of the Industries Development and Regulation Act.

(viii) Preparation of pictorial material to match educational broadcasts of A.I.R.

(ix) Conducting of workshop-cum-seminar of about a week duration for the officers-in-charge of Audio-Visual Edu-

cation in all States along with the holding of All India Exhibition of locally produced Audio-Visual material every year by the National Institute of Audio-Visual Education.

Fertilizer Factory near Madras

*1506. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a naphtha-based fertilizer factory near Madras city;

(b) if so, by what time the factory will go into production; and

(c) the quantity of fertilizers it will produce?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). The question of setting up a fertilizer factory in Madras during the Fourth Plan period is under consideration.

Oil in Poonch Area

1507. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir have approached the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to tap oil resources in Poonch area; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). No, Sir, but the Geology and Mining Adviser of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir drew the attention of the Commission to an occurrence of bituminous limestone in Quasba area to the North-east of Poonch. The Commission propose to have the occurrence investigated during the current field season.

Trial of an Alleged Spy

1508. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 449 on the 23rd January, 1963, regarding the arrest of an alleged spy and state:

(a) whether the trial has concluded; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi): (a) and (b). Investigation having revealed nothing incriminating against the accused, they were discharged.

Fertilizer Factories

1509. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Heda:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1860 on the 18th December, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the planning group on fertilizer industry has since finalised its proposals for creation of additional capacity for the production of fertilisers during the Fourth Plan period;

(b) if so, the main proposals; and

(c) the targets of production for the Fourth Plan in regard to different types of fertilisers?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) Not yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise at this stage.

Development of Fertiliser Industry

1510. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No.

656 on the 18th December, 1963 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received an official report of the proceedings of the conference;

(b) if so, the main observations and recommendations made at the conference; and

(c) the action taken in the light of those recommendations and observations?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of the report is available in the Parliament Library.

(c) The report is under study.

Drilling Rigs

1511. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Sudhansu Das:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established repairing shops for drilling rigs;

(b) if so, the number of such shops established;

(c) whether rigs are also manufactured with indigenous materials; and

(d) when all these units will be supplemented or replaced by quality rigs manufactured from Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Four Project Repair Workshops have been set up by Oil and Natural Gas Commission at Ankleshwar, Cambay, Ahmedabad and Sibsagar. A Central Capital Repair Workshop is also being established at Baroda.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. It is however proposed to start in 1965 production of oil drilling rigs utilising indigenous materials at the Heavy Machine Building Plant, Ranchi, but it is not yet possible to indicate a date for the total replacement of existing rigs.

Sports Village in Delhi

1512. **Shri G. Mohanty:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee of the All India Council of Sports has secured a suitable plot for establishment of a sports village in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the Scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Shri Bhakt Darshan): (a) and (b). A plot of land measuring 110 acres, South of Rajghat, has been allotted for a sports village. The Ministry of Irrigation and Power have, however, asked for the release of a portion of this land for being given to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking. The matter is under consideration and, pending a decision, no progress in working out the details of the project has been possible so far.

Criticism of Technical Education

1513. **Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has seen the report of a speech made by the Union Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering at the 37th annual meeting of the Institute of Engineers, criticising the technical training methods in the technical institutions, describing them to be out-moded;

(b) whether he also agrees with that statement; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the methods and to guide the young engineers on proper lines?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). The main criticism of the Union Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering was that the syllabi of the degree

courses in engineering had become out of date in certain colleges and universities.

The need for continual review of curricula and syllabi having regard to advances in science and technology is fully recognised. The All India Council for Technical Education has set up Boards of technical studies in different branches of engineering and technology and these Boards draw up model syllabi for the guidance of institutions and review them from time to time. At the postgraduate level, on the recommendations of a Special Committee, the courses are being reorganised in various institutions functioning at this level in order to train engineers and technologists with a strong scientific foundation. The scheme of reorganisation is being implemented with the help of a Board of Postgraduate Engineering Education and Research set up under the All India Council for Technical Education.

Oil in Ganga Basin Area of U.P.

1514. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the geological survey had established the possibilities of oil in the Ganga basin area of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Geological survey is still in progress and no definite statement can be made as yet.

दिल्ली में तरण-ताल

१५१५. श्री ओंकारलाल बेरवा : क्या **शिक्षा** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में तरण-तालों का निर्माण किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने बनाये जायेंगे ; और

(ग) उन पर कितना खर्च होगा ?

शिक्षा मन्त्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री अक्त दर्शन) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) (i) दिल्ली नगर निगम द्वारा दो, जिनमें से एक पूरा हो चुका है; और

(ii) नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका द्वारा तीन, जिन में से दो का निर्माण हो रहा है ।

(ग) लगभग ६,५०,००० रुपये ।

राजस्थान में उर्वरक के कारखाने

१५१६. **श्री प० बा० बारूपाल :**
श्री कर्णी सिंहजी :

क्या पैट्रोलियम तथा रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राजस्थान में हनुमानगढ़ में उर्वरक का कारखाना स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव स्थगित कर दिया गया है और उसकी बजाय राजस्थान में दो कारखाने खोलने का प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो ये कारखाने किन-किन स्थानों पर खोले जायेंगे और उन पर कितनी धन-राशि खर्च होगी ?

पैट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) तथा (ख) जिस पार्टी को राजस्थान में हनुमानगढ़ में एक उर्वरक कारखाने की स्थापना के लिए लाईसेंस की मंजूरी दी गई थी, उसने हनुमानगढ़ की बजाय कोटा में कारखाने की स्थापना के लिए सरकार से आज्ञा मांगी है । इस प्रस्तावित परिवर्तन और प्रदेश में

अन्य उचित स्थानों पर स्थापना के आर्थिक पहलुओं की जांच की जा रही है ।

Union Territories

1517. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Territories where Legislative Assemblies have been established are equal in status;

(b) if so, the reason for designating the heads of certain Union Territories as Lt. Governors and that of others as Chief Commissioners; and

(c) whether Government will take steps to do away with the differences in the designation and the status of the Heads of the Union Territories?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The Legislative Assemblies in the Union Territories have been constituted under the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, and have the same status in all the territories. Article 239 of the Constitution empowers the President to appoint an Administrator for each territory with such designation as he may specify. The terms "Lt. Governor" and "Chief Commissioner" are designations given to the Administrators. The designations are determined in the light of the circumstances of each case. The difference in the designation of the Administrators does not, however, make any difference in the status of the Legislative Assemblies of the Union Territories.

Vigilance Committee in Manipur

1518. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Territory of Manipur constituted a Vigilance Committee recently with the Chief Commissioner as its Chairman; and

(b) if so, how far the committee will be valid in view of the directive of the Union Government to the State including the Union Territories to constitute a Vigilance Commission?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs: (Shri Hathi): (a) The information is being collected from the Manipur Administration and will be laid on the table of the House when available.

(b) No such directive has been issued to the Union Territories.

National Theatre in New Delhi

1519. Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plans for the construction of the National Theatre opposite the National Museum at Central Vista, New Delhi are now in an advanced stage and the architect in charge of the project will shortly go to Japan and the U.S.A. to study the design and architecture of the theatres in those countries; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure the project is likely to involve and the national objectives the threatre is expected to serve?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir, The National Theatre is, at present, proposed to be located roughly opposite to the National Archives. The Architect concerned has gone to USA on some other assignment, but on his way back to India he will visit Japan to study theatre designs there.

(b) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 50 lakhs. The objective of the National Theatre is to develop Drama as an expression of national life and culture.

Qutab Minar

1520. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the theory propounded by some historians that the Qutab Minar was originally built in the Third century B.C. by Samundra Gupta;

(b) if so, the material on which this theory is based; and

(c) whether any efforts have been made to make a critical examination of this theory and its plausibility?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The material is conjectural.

(c) There is no archaeological or documentary evidence to support the theory.

Stadia

1521. Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Dr. Saradish Roy:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stadia built with the Central assistance during the Third Plan period so far; and

(b) the conditions governing the grant of such assistance laid down by the Central Government?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhakt Darshan): (a) 19 Stadia, whose construction was started in the Second Plan period, were completed during the Third Plan period, and

23 Stadia sanctioned during the Third Plan period are under construction at present.

(b) Under the Campus Work Projects Scheme, educational institutions of the standard of Secondary Schools and above, of 3 years standing, and having their own buildings and land for the project are eligible for grant. Central assistance is upto 75 per cent of the cost of the project excluding the cost of voluntary labour which should not be less than 5 per cent of the cost of construction, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25,000.

Under the Utility Stadia Scheme, grants are sanctioned to State Governments, State Sports Councils and National Sports Federations. The Central share is upto 50 per cent of the cost of construction, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25,000.

इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट आफ बायोकेमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरीमेंटल मेडिसन

१५२२. **श्री किशन पटनायक :**
श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद :
श्री रामसेवक यादव :

क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट आफ बायोकैमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरिमेंटल मेडिसन को यादवपुर से कल्याणी स्थानान्तरित करने की बात पर सरकार विचार कर ही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या का हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह निणर्य वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद् की कार्यकारिणी समिति ने किया है ; और

(घ) क्या इस विषय मे संस्था के निदेशक से परामर्श किया गया है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री म० क० चागला) : (क) से (घ). सी० एस० आई० आर० (वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद) की अन्तरंग सभा ने २४ मार्च १९६४ की बैठक में संस्था को यादवपुर से कल्याणी ले जाने के सवाल पर विचार किया था । अन्तरंग सभा ने इस बात पर विचार करने के लिए विशेषज्ञों की एक समिति

नियुक्त की है कि संस्था को यादवपुर ही रहने दिया जाए अथवा इसे कल्याणी भेज दिया जाए ।

इण्डियन इंस्टीट्यूट आफ बायोकेमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरिमेंटल मेडिसन की 'एनल्स' पत्रिका

१५२३. **श्री किशन पटनायक** : क्या **शिक्षा** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इण्डियन इंस्टीट्यूट आफ बायोकैमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरिमेंटल मेडिसन, कलकत्ता द्वारा प्रकाशित 'एनल्स' पत्रिका को बन्द कर दिया गया है और उसे दिल्ली से भिन्न रूप में प्रकाशित किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसा करने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) क्या वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद के अन्तर्गत ऐसी संस्थाएं हैं जिनको अपना बुलेटिन या पत्रिका प्रकाशित करने का अधिकार है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) : (क) दि एनल्स आफ बायोकैमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरिमेंटल मैडिसन, जो इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट फार बायोकैमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरिमेंटल मैडिसन द्वारा प्रकाशित किया जाता था, अब सी० एस० आई० आर० (वैज्ञानिक और औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद) के प्रकाशन निदेशालय द्वारा "इंडियन जर्नल आफ दी बायोकैमिस्ट्री (भूतपूर्व एनल्स आफ बायोकैमिस्ट्री एण्ड एक्सपेरिमेंटल मैडिसन)" के नाम से निकाला जाएगा ।

(ख) ऐसा, सी० एस० आई० आर० (वैज्ञानिक और औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद) की अन्तरंग सभा की २५-१०-१९६३ की बैठक में लिए गए निर्णय के अनुसार किया जा रहा है, जिसका २४-३-१९६४ की बैठक में पुनः समर्थन किया गया था ।

(ग) अन्तरंग सभा के निर्णय के अनुसार प्रयोगशालाओं । इंस्टीट्यूटों को उद्योग के उपयोग के बुलेटिन या गृह पत्रिकाएं निकालने की अनुमति दी गई है, अनुसंधान प्रकाशनों के लिए नहीं ।

Visit of Soviet Education Minister

1524. **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**
Shri Baswant:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Soviet Education Minister has arrived in Delhi;

(b) whether he was invited by the Indian Government;

(c) if so, the objects of his visit; and

(d) how far those objects have been achieved?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir. The Soviet Minister of Higher and Specialised Secondary Education arrived in India on 26th February and left on 6th March, 1964.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The main object of his visit was to attend the Second Convocation and see the progress of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, which has been established with assistance from the U.S.S.R. given through UNESCO and on a bilateral basis.

Sindhu Resettlement Corporation

1525. **Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:**
Shri Vishram Parasad:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Managing Director of the Sindhu Resettlement Corporation was prosecuted by the

Special Police Establishment for disposing of in the black market electric goods worth several lacs of rupees obtained under an import licence and intended for use in the developmet of Gandhidham;

(b) if so, whether the case ended in conviction and whether the sentence was enhanced by the High Court in appeal; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that this Managing Director could elude the law for nearly three years on medical grounds and never went to jail until he obtained pardon from the Governor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Managing Director was not lodged in a jail but remained as an in-patient in St. George Hospital, Bombay, till 13-12-1961 when he was released on parole. He continued to be on parole until he was granted pardon by the Governor of Bombay under article 161 of the Constitution.

Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Store

1526. { **Shri Himmatsinghji:** / **Shri Yashpal Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Store had issued a circular asking the lower-paid staff to purchase cycle tyres and tubes from them;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that more than one month has elapsed and still no tyre or tube was made available to Government servants; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) A circular was issued on the 20th January, 1964, to the effect that cycle tyres and tubes in limited quantities would be available for sale at the Store to the lower-paid employees only on a restricted basis;

(b) The Stores has been able to secure a monthly quota of only 200 tyres and 200 tubes. Two consignments, which have so far been received, were sold off immediately.

(c) Does not arise.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1527. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that Andaman and Nicobar Islands were renamed as Swaraj and Shaheed islands by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose after their liberation from British bondage in 1944;

(b) if so, whether Government proposed to adopt the change made by Netaji; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) The Government have no information.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

प्रतिबद्ध छुट्टियां

१५२८. { **श्री कछवाय :** / **श्री गोकरन प्रसाद :**

क्या **गृह-कार्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १९६२ से पहले केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को वर्ष में चार प्रतिबद्ध (रिस्ट्रिक्टेड) छुट्टियां मिलती थीं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो १९६३ में उनको कम कर के दो कर देने के क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ल० ना० मिश्र) : (क) तथा (ख). १९६० से पहले

चार दिन की प्रतिबद्ध छुट्टियां घोषित की जाती थीं । परन्तु किसी छुट्टी से सम्बन्धित सम्प्रदाय विशेष के व्यक्ति ही वह (छुट्टी) ले सकते थे । परिणामतः कोई भी व्यक्ति एक से अधिक प्रतिबद्ध छुट्टी नहीं ले सकता था, तथा वह भी कुछ सम्प्रदायों के व्यक्ति ही । इसके विपरीत अब प्रतिबद्ध छुट्टियों की विहित सूची में से दो छुट्टियां बिना किसी सम्प्रदाय के विचार के प्रत्येक केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारी को मिल सकती है ।

Suspension of Shri R. P. Kapur

1529. Shri Kapur Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an explanation of Shri R. P. Kapur, I.C.S. was called for before the Central Government issued order placing him under suspension; and

(b) if not, whether it amounts to violation of the rules governing the Government servants?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

Regional Institute of Technology in Hyderabad

1530. Shri Laxmi Dass: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have requested the Central Government to set up a Regional Institute of Technology in Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this connection?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). A Regional Engineering College has already been set up at Warangal and no request has been received from the State Government for another regional institute.

उत्तर प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय छात्रसेना दल के चान्दमारी क्षेत्र

१५३१. श्री रणन्जय सिंह : क्या **शिक्षा** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश के विभिन्न जिलों में राष्ट्रीय छात्रसेना दल के चान्दमारी क्षेत्रों की स्थापना के लिये अनुदान इस शर्त पर दिये गये हैं कि उनकी स्थापना ३१ मार्च, १९६४ तक अवश्य हो जाये ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कोई क्षेत्र सीमेंट न मिलने के कारण ३१ मार्च, १९६४ तक स्थापित न हो पाये तो क्या अवधि बढ़ा दी जायेगी ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) : (क) विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा इस प्रयोजन के लिए दिए गए अनुदानों का उपयोग ३१ मार्च, १९६४ तक किया जाना है ।

(ख) ३१ मार्च, १९६४ से आगे समय बढ़ाने के प्रश्न पर, विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग, योजना आयोग के परामर्श से विचार कर रहा है ।

All India Teachers' Federation

1532. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation from all India Teachers' Federation have been received by Government; and

(b) if so, their demands and the Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir. A representation has been received from All India Secondary Teachers' Federation.

(b) The demands are:—

(i) There should be uniformity of standard and pattern of secondary education in the country.

(ii) There should be uniformity of pay scales and service conditions of teachers of secondary schools in different States.

(iii) A reasonable security of service should be guaranteed to teachers on a uniform basis.

(iv) A pension scheme for teachers of non-Government schools should be introduced.

(v) A Secondary Education Grants Commission should be set up.

(vi) Teachers' Constituencies in State Legislative Councils should be retained.

(vii) Adequate representation of teachers' organisations should be given on all national and State consultative and advisory bodies particularly those dealing with educational development.

All the demands have been noted.

Training Centre for Adult Blind

1533. { **Shri A. V. Raghavan:** / **Shri Pottekkatt:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a training centre for the adult blind in the South;

(b) if so, the place selected for the purpose; and

(c) when the centre will be established?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The place has not yet been selected.

(c) The Centre is expected to start functioning in 1964-65.

Grants to Residential Schools

1534. { **Shri A. V. Raghavan:** / **Shri Pottekkatt:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to give grants to selected residential schools in order to enable them to improve their academic and residential facilities;

(b) when the scheme will be implemented; and

(c) the schools selected for this purpose and the amount sanctioned for this scheme?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1964-65.

(c) The following institutions have been selected and the estimated grant to be given to them during 1964-65 is Rs. 4.00 lakhs:—

(i) Bhonsala Military School, Nasik (Maharashtra).

(ii) Shri Ramakrishna Vidyashala, Mysore (Mysore State).

(iii) Vidya Bhavan, Udaipur (Rajasthan).

(iv) Colvin Taluqdars College, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).

(v) Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapith, Purulia (West Bengal).

(vi) Ramakrishna Mission Boys' Home, Rahara (West Bengal).

Indian Statistical Service

1535. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the further progress made in the constitution of Indian Statistical Service; and

(b) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). The Indian Statistical Service has already been constituted and appointments to the Service at its initial constitution have also been notified in the Gazette of India on the 18th February, 1964. A few more appointments will be notified as soon as certain formalities are completed.

Polytechnics for Boys and Girls

1536. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the **Minister of Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of polytechnics for boys and girls, with location of each, functioning at the end of December, 1963 in Punjab;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase this number during 1964-65; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) At the end of December, 1963, 17 polytechnics were functioning in the Punjab as below:—

1. Punjab Polytechnic, Nilokheri.
2. Government Polytechnic, Ambala.
3. Central Polytechnic, Chandigarh.
4. Government Polytechnic, Jhajjar.
5. Government Polytechnic, Sirsa.
6. Jagat Ram Government Polytechnic, Hoshiarpur.
7. Thapar Polytechnic, Patiala.
8. Guru Nanak Engineering College, Ludhiana.
9. Mehr Chand Polytechnic, Jullundur.
10. Ramgarhia Polytechnic, Phagwara.
11. S. D. Polytechnic, Baijnath.
12. Vishwakarma Institute of Engineering Technology, Ludhiana.
13. Chhotu Ram Polytechnic, Rohtak.
14. Vaish Technical Institute, Rohtak.
15. Government Polytechnic, Guru Tegh Bahadur Garh. (Admissions made in Central polytechnic, Chandigarh).
16. Government Polytechnic, Hamirpur. (Admissions made in Jagat Ram Government Polytechnic, Hoshiarpur).
17. Government Polytechnic, for Women, Chandigarh.

(b) and (c). The Third Five Year Plan of the State Government provides for the establishment of five more polytechnics by the end of the plan period. Four of these polytechnics will be located at Batala, Rewari, Amritsar and Faridabad. The location of the fifth polytechnic has yet to be decided.

Fire Accident in Delhi

1537. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 150 families were rendered homeless, one person was killed and some others injured in a fire accident in Malkaganj near Sabzimandi, Delhi on the 10th March, 1964;

(b) if so, the cause of the accident; and

(c) the Central assistance being given to rehabilitate the said families?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes; in all 126 *jhuggis* were burnt rendering about 500 people homeless. One person was killed and two other persons received minor burns.

(b) The cause of the accident was a fire which broke out in a hut which was used for manufacturing plastic-coated rubber parts for cycle brakes.

(c) There is no question of giving any Central assistance. The Commissioner, Delhi Municipal Corporation sanctioned the following relief measures:—

(i) cash grant of Rs. 25|- to each affected family;

(ii) a grant of Rs. 100|- to the family of the person who was deceased;

(iii) arrangements to provide food, drinking water and shelter to the affected families;

(iv) medical and sanitary facilities.

Dass Commission

1538. { **Shri A. V. Raghavan:** / **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dass Commission has asked for extension of time to submit its report; and

(b) if so, whether Government have extended the time asked for?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Considering the progress made so far, the time for making the report has been extended, in consultation with the Commission, till 1st June, 1964.

बुनियादी शिक्षा का कार्यक्रम

१५३९. **श्री ब० प्र० सिंह :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) डा० जाकिर हुसैन द्वारा सिफारिश किया गया बुनियादी शिक्षा पाठ्यक्रम कितने राज्यों में लागू किया गया है ; और

(ख) यह प्रयोग किस हद तक सफल रहा है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री भु० क० चागला) : (क) और (ख). बुनियादी राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा समिति (जो जाकिर हुसैन समिति के नाम से प्रसिद्ध है) की रिपोर्ट में दी गई परिभाषा तथा केन्द्रीय शिक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड द्वारा की गई उसकी व्याख्या के अनुसार, कुछ संशोधन के साथ, बुनियादी शिक्षा की संकल्पना को सभी राज्यों तथा संघीय क्षेत्रों ने प्रारंभिक स्तर के लिए शिक्षा की राष्ट्रीय रूपरेखा के रूप में स्वीकार कर लिया है ।

इस कार्यक्रम में कुछ प्रगति हुई है । १९५०–५१ में, देश में ३३,७६१ बुनियादी स्कूल थे (३३,३७३ अवर और ३८८ प्रवर) । यह संख्या १९५५–५६ में बढ़ कर ४७,८१३ (४२,९७१ अवर और ४,८४२ प्रवर) तथा तीसरी योजना के आरंभ में ७६,७८७ (६२,५१९ अवर तथा १४,२६८ प्रवर) तक पहुंच गई ।

प्रारंभिक स्कूलों को बुनियादी स्कूलों में बदलने के कार्यक्रम को पूरा करने के लिए राज्यों ने बुनियादी शिक्षा की उन रूपरेखा और ऐसे कार्यकलापों को आरंभ करने के लिए, जिनको अधिक राशि तथा उच्च प्रशिक्षित व्यक्तियों की आवश्यकता नहीं है, आवश्यक कार्रवाइयां की हैं । यह कार्यक्रम' जो अभिस्थापन कार्यक्रम' के नाम से जाना जाता है, तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल कर लिया गया है तथा इसे राज्यों द्वारा कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है । आशा है कि यह तीसरी योजना के अन्त तक पूरा हो जाएगा ।

Dawki Outpost

1540. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently the Border Security Force outpost at Dawki, Assam was burnt down; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry into the incident has been conducted so far and the findings thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes.

(b) The Commandant of the Border Security Force conducted an enquiry into the incident and came to the conclusion that it was a case of accidental fire.

Civil and Rural Engineering Diploma

1541. { **Shri Jedhe:** / **Shri D. S. Patil:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diploma in Civil and Rural Engineering awarded by the National Council for Rural Higher Education has been recognised since 1963 for the purposes of employment on permanent basis in Central Services including the M.E.S. and the Railways;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the Central Government Departments where the above diploma is recognised for employment and the steps taken to get employment to the holders of this diploma?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). The Diploma in Civil and Rural Engineering awarded by the National Council for Rural Higher Education has been provisionally recognised for purposes of employment to subordinate posts and services until further orders. The recognition covers all the Ministries and the Departments of the Central Government.

The question of permanent recognition of the Diploma is under the consideration of the Board of Assessment for Technical and Professional Qualifications.

Free Education in Delhi

1542. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to make education free upto Class X in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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12 hrs.

RE. ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS AND CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

Mr. Speaker: I have received notices of two adjournment motions by Shri Hem Barua, Shri S. M. Banerjee and Shri Homi Daji and five Calling Attention Notices by Shri Yashpal Singh, Shri Hem Barua, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shrimati Renu Chakravartty, Shri Homi Daji, Shrimati Renuka Ray and Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, about the espionage activities of Pakistan Assistant High Commissioner at Shillong. I have thought over it. My first impression was that it is not a new thing. But the allegation is that the provocation has been given by the statement of the Home Minister yesterday. May I know whether the hon. Minister can make any statement about it?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The matter is under consideration by the External Affairs Ministry.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): The Home Minister has admitted that the Assistant High Commissioner there was engaged in espionage activities. We want to know whether any action has been taken on that.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am saying that this matter is under the consideration of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): For the benefit of the hon. Prime Minister, Sir, I would like to point out one thing. When there was a question here about the closing down by Pakistan of the Indian office in Rajshahi, in reply to a query made by me whether the Prime Minister proposed to close down the Pakistan Assistant High Commissioner's office at Shillong or not, the hon. Prime Minister was pleased to say: "We are watching their activities and appropriate steps would be taken when necessary." Now, this office is engaged in espionage activities. I am only just trying to remind the Prime Minister so that he might give a fuller reply. I have been trying to draw the attention of the Prime Minister and you also, Sir, through calling attention notices. Unfortunately, they have been disallowed. Now, the Home Minister has come out with a statement in the Congress Parliamentary Party meeting, despite the fact that we have given our notices here, and I congratulate him for coming out with that statement. Now, if you want me. . . .

Mr. Speaker: I have not given him time to congratulate the Minister.

Shri Hem Barua: Then I do not congratulate him. But if you shut us down like that . . *(Interruptions)*.

Mr. Speaker: Again, another controversy is started.

Shri Hem Barua: . . . .we are debarred from discharging our duties, and this is one of our important duties.

Mr. Speaker: Has he anything to say on this particular subject?

Shri Hem Barua: Therefore, I want to know from the Prime Minister point blank whether he has forgotten the assurance that he has given to this House long back and whether the present activities of this office, as we know it, are not sufficient for him to take a decision to ask for its closure.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): There are two points on which we have tabled this adjournment motion. One is the espionage in Shillong by Pakistan High Commission, about which a statement was made by Shri G. L. Nanda, our Home Minister, in a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party.

Mr. Speaker: That has been referred to already.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Secondly, the Prime Minister has said that the External Affairs Ministry is considering it; that is to say, the closure of the Assistant Pakistan High Commissioner's office. I would like to know the decisions that have been taken regarding both, first, to check the espionage work done by the Assistant High Commissioner of Pakistan with the help of certain Pakistani spies who have infiltrated to Assam and, secondly, regarding the closure of this particular office at least to put some check on such espionage in our country.

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister has said that the matter is under consideration. Now the hon. Member asks whether he is going to ask for the closure of that office.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Since my party has been referred to, I would like to make one point clear. In the party meeting the Home Minister never made a statement that he was sure or confident that this was being done. What he said was that he had received such reports. That is all what he has said.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, may I read for your information what has appeared in the newspaper?

Mr Speaker: No. Shri Tyagi has given information as to what has happened.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Four newspapers have given four different versions.

Mr. Speaker: So, it is only a report in the press. Now, would the Prime Minister like to say anything on this?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No. As I said, this matter is being fully considered by the External Affairs Ministry. I cannot go into any further details.

Shri Hem Barua: How long would you take to finalise your decision?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about the espionage?

Mr Speaker: That is not for discussion now.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): But the emergency is on.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Sir, on a point of order. Mr. Speaker, it is with the fullest sense of responsibility that I seek your indulgence today and it is for my future guidance. Now, the subject you allowed to be mentioned in the House is espionage by Pakistani agents in India. I am a little baffled to know this, because I do not know whether the danger constituted to India's security by Pakistani agents operating in Rourkela or Jamshedpur is in any way different from that constituting to our security by Pakistani agents operating in Shillong. I am posing this question because we also tried to raise the matter on the basis of a statement by a very responsible man, no less than the ex-Chief Minister of Orissa, who said that Pakistani agents are operating in India, particularly in Jamshedpur and Rourkela according to his first hand finding, and, Sir, you have disallowed it. I am not challenging that. I want to know the criterion so that I do not take the time of the House unnecessarily or challenge your authority. So, I may be enlightened on the criterion followed in such cases.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Renu Chakravartty challenged that yesterday. Now Shri Nath Pai is challenging that.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He has not challenged it, Sir. That is not correct.

Shri Nath Pai: Sir, I am only seeking a clarification. Challenging is quite different from clarification.

Mr. Speaker: I have said it so many times and there is nothing more to add to what I have repeated so often. It is for me at that time to exercise my discretion as to what is more important and what is to be mentioned here. If some hon. Member has a grievance, certainly—I have requested every hon. Member—he can come and talk with me. Here I cannot take it up and argue with any hon. Member. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrackpore): May I know whether attention of the Government has been drawn. . . . .

Mr. Speaker: No. I had asked her to call attention. . . .

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I also was a signatory to that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is your ruling about the adjournment motion?

Mr. Speaker: No adjournment motion. That is being considered and after that consideration, they can give further notice of that.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Has it been held over?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Has it been held over?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about the calling-attention notice?

Mr. Speaker: They are considering it.

Sbri Hem Barua: May I submit for your enlightenment . . (*Interruption*). This adjournment motion was addressed to the hon. Prime Minister. We have addressed some calling-attention notices to the hon. Home Minister so that he might make a statement.

Mr. Speaker: They do not arise in view of this.

12.11 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

HINDU TRIBAL REFUGEES FROM EAST PAKISTAN

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrackpore): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

> The hardships being suffered by Hindu tribal refugees migrating from East Pakistan, especially due to the outbreak of small-pox and other diseases caused by lack of arrangements of regular rations, treatment, transport etc.

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): According to information obtained from the Government of Assam this morning, the position is that 3 persons in one of the camps in the Garo Hills were found to be suffering from small-pox. They had come from Pakistan and had brought the infection from there. Immediate action was taken to isolate them and arrange proper medical attention for them.

2. Mass inoculation against cholera and vaccination against small pox had already been completed in all the camps in the Garo Hills. Medical arrangements have been made in all camps and the refugees are supplied with rations, blankets etc. A sufficient number of doctors and public health staff are on duty and cases requiring hospitalisation are shifted to the District Hospital at Tura.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether it is in the knowledge of Government that in the interiormost parts bordering Mymensingh and Baghmara there are no arrangements for rations for these thousands of people who have come there, that people —women, children and old people— have to walk 32 to 35 miles to Dalu on hilly road in the burning heat in order to get their rations and that there is actually no arrangement for treatment or transport from these interior places for them to come?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The information of the hon. Member, as far as I know from my personal visit to these camps, is entirely unfounded. These camps have been set up over quite a large area, right from near the border up to Tura. The number of camps that I visited was about 12 or 13 then. I wish to say that the Government of Assam deserves our congratulations and appreciation for the nice work that they have done in giving relief, that is, medical relief, rations and all those things, to these unfortunate people who have been driven out of East Pakistan

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I make a clarification? It is not my intention not to congratulate the Government of Assam. We want that we should try to find out exactly what the situation is. I have got letters from the people in the areas themselves. It is stated that very good arrangements have been made by the Christian missionaries and that they are doing excellent work whereas in the case of other Tribals these arrangements have not been possible. Therefore, without casting aspersion on anybody—I do not want to do that. . . .

An Hon. Member: That is good.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: That should not be done. I hope, the hon. Minister will not try to turn this question into that form at all. I want that the attention of the Government should be drawn to the innermost interrior parts where there may not be such good arrangements, like in Baghmara. That is why I am specifically mentioning this point.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: We are not making any distinction between Hindu refugees and Christian refugees. Refugees are all refugees and they are a charge on the Government of India. We are treating this problem as a national problem. Whatever I could gather was that these camps were all mixed camps. They were spread over a long area. They are mostly by the side of the roads. These camps have been set up where there is water available. Now, as the monsoon season is fast approaching, the areas may become inaccessible; so, we are arranging to shift these camps to higher places, most probably near Goalpara. The Christian missionaries are giving some help to their own people, Christians. To that nobody can object. If any other organisation would like to go and help other refugees, that would be equally welcome.

Shri Daji (Indore): May I know whether rations and medical help are available in each and every camp or there is only a general pool from which they will have to draw?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Yes, we have done our level best in this regard.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): May I know the scheme to rehabilitate these refugees who are now put over a scatered area? What is the final arrangement? Have the State Government some plan, or have the Central Government thought about that? May I know also whether a parliamentary delegation is likely to be sent there to see the arrangements made?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: As far as the parliamentary delegation is concerned, I do not think that I have anything to do with it. If I as a Minister, am informed that some of the Members of Parliament would like to go there, I shall certainly take up the matter with the Government of Assam.

As far as the rehabilitation aspect is concerned, we are very anxious that these people should be provided with work and not kept idle in the camps, but that is going to take a little time, for the obvious reason that the areas to which they have come are the Garo Hills. This area will have to be developed. The economy of this area will have to be developed, and we shall also have to formulate separate schemes, like terracing, afforestation etc. Action in that regard is being taken. I have discussed these schemes myself with the Chief Minister of Assam and we are taking appropriate action in the matter.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): My humble request to you, Sir, is that you also should visit these areas.

Mr. Speaker: Invitations are not extended inside the House.

12.17 hrs.

RE: CALLING-ATTENTION NOTICE

Mr. Speaker: Yesterday, the hon. Minister had made a statement and I had kept that pending for any questions or clarifications that might be needed. Would the hon. Minister be able to give those clarifications at 5 P.M. today?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): Yes.

Mr. Speaker: So, the hon. Members concerned may kindly remain here in the House at 5 P.M.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: (Mandsaur): We had tabled some calling-attention notices about the Jammu explosion.

Mr. Speaker: It cannot be asked here.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): That means that the business of the House will be interrupted at 5 P.M.?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

12·18 hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

GOVERNMENT'S DECISIONS ON REPORT OF *Ad Hoc* COMMITTEE OF TOURISM

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Ministry of Transport Resolution No. 6-AHC(2)|63 dated the 13th March, 1964, containing Government's decisions on the Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Tourism. [*Placed in Library, See* No. LT-2581|64].

12:18½ hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

TWENTY-THIRD REPORT

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I beg to present the Twenty-third Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Audit Report (Commercial), 1963.

12.18½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT

Shri Krishnamoorthy Rao (Shimoga): I beg to present the Thirty-eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.18¾ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SEVENTEENTH AMENDMENT) BILL

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shri Krishnamoorthy Rao (Shimoga): I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

EVIDENCE GIVEN BEFORE JOINT COMMITTEE

Shri Krishnamoorthy Rao: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the evidence given before the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

12.19 hrs.

ARMED FORCES (SPECIAL POWERS) CONTINUANCE BILL*

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to continue the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Regulation, 1958, for a further period.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introdue a Bill to continue the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Regulation, 1958, for a further period".

The motion was adopted

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I introduce the Bill.

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*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary—Part II, Section 2, dated 25-3-64.

12.19½ hrs.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*contd.*

MINISTRY OF LAW—*contd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Law.

Shri S. M. Banerjee may now continue his speech.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Yesterday, I was speaking on the question of the separation of the judiciary from the executive, and I had given certain instances to show how the magistracy was handicapped because their confidential reports were written by the additional district magistrates. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what concrete steps have been taken to see that this particular scheme which has been hailed by all sections of this House and also outside is implemented in all the States in all seriousness and speed.

Then Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia said something about the condition in courts. I would like to invite the attention of the Law Misister to the corruption that is rampant in lower courts. I do not impute any motive to the judges or the judiciary. But the way in which the staff of the courts function, it is impossible for anyone to go and get justice. Even for adjournment to a particular date, he has to pay something to some clerk or to some peon or to somebody else. This has earned a bad name. It is called in UP काजल की कोठरी Naturally you can imagine the amount of frustration caused to a common man who has nothing to pay who is denied justice only for this reason.

An hon. Member: This relates to the Home Ministry.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Cabinet functions on the basis of collective responsibility. This could very well be passed on to the Home Minister.

Mr. Speaker: We are dealing with the Demands of a particular Ministry. Replies can be given only to those points pertaining to that Ministry.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: All right.

I come to the question of simplification of election law. Shri Daji and other Members have stated how election in this country has become expensive. It is very difficult for representatives of the people to contest elections unless they have the resources. The return may be filed for Rs. 11,000, Rs. 12,000 or Rs. 13,000. But what is the actual position? In some elections, people have to spend, and have spent, Rs. 2, 3 lakhs. So naturally they have to take money from big business houses and big capitalists. with the result that when elected to the House of the People, they have to translate the policies of those tycoons into action. They are almost gagged. They cannot say the truth. There are subtle ways is which it is done. In that way, it will be a mockery of democracy in this country, if democracy can thrive in this country only on this basis that those elected have to act according to those who want a certain policy to be sabotaged or changed at their instance.

What is happening in the country during the elections? I would request that either the Chief Election Commissioner or, better still. the hon. Law Minister. should call a conference of political parties and progressive Independents and find out some ways to reduce election expenses. Otherwise, democracy will be so expensive in this country that those people who have no money but have a good heart which bleeds for the common people will not be able to contest elections. So I request the hon. Minister to do something in this regard.

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* Moved with recommendation of the President.

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

Another point was referred to here. We were discussing the implementation or application of the Defence of India Rules and they the way in which some members have been arrested. When the whole question was referred to the Supreme Court, I remember—though it was in a minority judgment—even some of the hon. Judges of the Court termed this to be a lawless law. I am told because there was a question of paying damages if they are released or if it was declared *ultra vires* or if some lacuna was found, the Law Ministry is trying to bring in an amendment to the Constitution. After all, the Constitution has a sanctity. We all swear by it. In our country, the Constitution is sovereign, not this House even. When this House itself is a creature of the Constitution, can we possibly amend it only to suit the convenience of the ruling party? What is the idea behind it? Simply some people have been, according to me, indiscriminately or illegally detained, to cover up their mistakes or the lawless law, they want to amend the Constitution. It will be most unfortunate if this is done.

Mr. Speaker: The law is made by this Parliament itself. No Member should call it a lawless law.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not calling it, it was called by the High Court Judges.

Mr. Speaker: Lawless law?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I speak subject to correction, but it was described so.

Mr. Speaker: The Judges of the High Court or the Supreme Court would not call a law a lawless law.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: They say it is *ultra vires*, illegal.

Mr. Speaker: *Ultra vires* it is their job to say. It is only here, inside this House, that the Members have this privilege of calling a law lawless law.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am only saying what the common people say about it, because I represent the common people.

If the Constitution is amended cover it up, I will definitely feel that it is a mockery of democracy.

Yesterday, we mentioned something about the constitutional crisis in U.P. I am not going into the merits of the case. I am simply reading out certain things which have come out in the newspapers, which I am entitled to read where the Centre has been brought in. It says:

"Plea to seek President's Intervention. Move Fails in U.P. Assembly.

"An unsuccessful move was made today in the Vidhan Sabha to persuade the House to seek the President's intervention in the dispute between the legislature and the judiciary.

"The move was made by Mr. Sharda Bhakt Singh (JS) and had the support of Mr. Charan Singh, Agriculture Minister."

You can imagine how deep it has gone. Here is an Opposition Member, belonging to the Jana Sangh, moving a resolution that the President should be requested to intervene in the matter to end this constitutional crisis.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): On a point of order. Any proceeding of the Assembly cannot be discussed here in one form or another.

श्री राम सेवक यादव (बाराबंकी): यह घटनाओं का वर्णन हो रहा है । कोई कमेन्ट नहीं किया जा रहा है ।

Mr. Speaker: We are not discussing whether it is good or bad. It is only a fact he is mentioning.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am only reading from the newspaper, I can show it to him. I am not commenting. It has mentioned the President. The President is not the monopoly of the U.P. Government. He is Rashtrapati for all. The question is whether Central intervention is necessary. Here is a State Minister who supported that resolution of a Jana Sangh leader. Generally, the Congress does not see eye to eye with the Jana Sangh, but there was something in the resolution which was suported by Shri Charan Singh, the Minister of Agriculture in U.P.

It has also come out in the newspapers that our Minister without Portfolio, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, conferred with the Attorney-General, Shri Viswanathan, the Secretary of the Home Minister, and the Law Minister. I would like to know what the decision is, whether the Centre is going to intervene or not to end this constitutional crisis in U.P.

I represent U.P. I come from a place called Kanpur. If this fight goes on between the judiciary and the legislature, between the house of justice and the house of the people, I do not know what is going to happen to the people. Let the people of U.P. not be crushed or sandwiched in this fight between the judiciary and the people's representatives. It will be wrong. Let us remember, let the U.P. Government and the U.P. Assembly Members also remember, that the Constitution is supreme. The country, the Constitution and the poll—these are the three bases on which we stand. The country comes first, then the Constitution was framed, and the framers of the Constitution envisaged that after all democracy should function in the country. And you, as the custodian of democracy, have very correctly said that there is a constitutional crisis. The crisis has to be solved. It does not matter if the U.P. Assembly or Government do not like it, there should be Central intervention.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): Sir, I have tabled three cut motions in my name: one for the need to appoint enquiry committee on Mohamedan Law, second, to point out the need for expeditious disposal of election disputes and third, to point out the need to accelerate the work of Law Commission by publication of translation of laws in Hindi and in regional languages.

The hon. Members of the House know that a Law Commission was appointed and one of its recommendations was that there were matters with regard to Hindu Law and Muslim Law which required to be enquired into. Consequent upon this recommendation there was the Hindu Religious Endowment Commission's report and certain laws have been brought forward. In the last year's Budget there was a provision of Rs. 1,59,600 to constitute an enquiry committee on Muslim Law but in the revised estimates or this year's budget estimates, there is absolutely no such provision. I want to know whether this enquiry is going to be abandoned altogether and if so, what are the reasons, Have they abandoned on account of this Emergency? I do not know the reasons. Having read about Mohamaden Law a little bit, I feel that it is a very complicated thing and every effort should be made to rationalise it and introduce certain progressive rules in its interpretation as they have done in the case of Hindu religious endowments. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether this matter is kept in suspense as a matter of economy on account of Emergency. What is the reason, I do not know. There is the general reluctance of introducing common social legislation applicable to Hindus and Muslims alike. Care is taken to see that the laws about Hindus will not apply to Muslims. One of the real things that needs to be done for closer integration is to try

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and extend the scope of common legislation as far as possible. From that point of view also, my point is important.

My second point is about expeditious disposal of election disputes. Many hon. Members who have preceded me have spoken about this. If for half the period of this Parliament, election petitions could not be disposed of, it does not speak very well. Some measure should be devised by the hon. Law Minister in consultation with the Law Commission to remedy this situation. If election disputes are kept hanging for the whole period of the life of a Parliament, they become simply a source of harassment, unnecessary waste of time and extravagant expenditure.

I now come to my last point. The Law Commission are doing very good work by taking up the work of translating the important laws in Hindi. Laws which are frequently used in courts should be taken up first and translated in Hindi and other regional languages also as the States are permitted to make use of their vernaculars in the courts and in schools also. If this work is simultaneously done, it can be done expeditiously and the solution of the question of the national language will also be thereby considerably facilitated; it will create friendliness and avoid bitterness among people. The main thing should be to see that these languages are properly developed. This is one of the essential things which the Law Commission have to do. The Constitution lays down that Hindi shall be the national language but it also casts a duty to make that language a fit vehicle for expression of further development of progressive thought. From that point of view also, if the translation of these big and important laws in Hindi and regional languages is taken up, I feel a very important step would have been taken so that by the time in 1965 was shall be able to show some real progress in Hindi and other languages. People will not be so hopeless as Hindi language will find its proper place.

I have not moved these cut motions Law Commission are doing very good work by taking up the work of transbring them to the notice of the hon. Minister. There is one more point. Many hon. Members referred to the importance of the rule of law in a democracy. There should be due regard for the rule of law. Nobody could take exception to that statement. This House makes the laws and rules. If the hon. Members of this House will show proper regard to the procedures, rules and laws which guide hon. Members in making laws of the nation, then I am sure we will set a better example to the whole of India. People fight outside among themselves. That is not the rule of law. Similarly, when legislation is being discussed in this House, there is no quorum; the bell is rung not once or twice but even thrice or more time in a day. Legislatures make laws so that people may obey them in the whole country. If they themselves, the legislators, show scant regard for the laws, it is not possible to get proper response from the people to the appeal to observe rule of law by which we want the democracy in this country to be firm and strong. From this point of view my request is not so much to the Law Minister but to the whole body of Members of Parliament whose responsibility it is to keep quorum. That is the constitutional responsibility to which everyone has taken a pledge. The Members on the Government benches should not always point out to the Members of the Opposition whenever there is a question of the quorum. They should see that there is quorum. It is the duty of the Government, and the Government is the Government of India, whether we like it or not. We have all to see that the work of the Gbvernment is properly done and Parliament work is properly carried

on. Therefore, my earnest request is that there should be some arrangement among themselves to see that there should not be any necessity for the Speaker to adjourn the House for want of quorum.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am deeply obliged to all hon. Members who have taken part in the debate, from different sections of the House and have taken pains to throw valuable and helpful light on the urgent problems relating to the entire legal system of the country. I do not mind, if in doing so, they have forgotten on occasion the strict limits set down for the Ministry of Law. Many of the matters to which reference has been made do not really appertain to our Ministry at all, for instance, labour courts, the separation of the executive from the judiciary which is a matter for the Home Ministry, and various other matters which I shall mention while I deal with the points one by one.

But certain fundamental questions that have been raised, whether they appertain strictly to the Ministry of Law or not, have to be answered on behalf of the Government. The most important thing on which stress has been laid, and if I may say so, rightly laid, by various Members including Dr. Aney and Shri Nath Pai and others, is the question of the rule of law.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Shri Nath Pai did not participate in this debate.

Shri A. K. Sen: I am sorry. It was Shri Daji. I am obliged to Shri Kamath for correcting me, which he frequently does.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: In your own interest.

Shri A. K. Sen: For mutual interests, if I may say so. On the question of rule of law, I think I am at one, and the whole House is at one in our eagerness to maintain what we call the rule of law, though our ideas about what is the rule of law are not always constant and are not always the same. For instance Shri Daji said that in maintaining the rule of law the courts have to observe the social concept. Speaking as a lawyer, it is difficult for me to subscribe to that very dangerous doctrine. If courts have to interpret law according to what is called the social concept, then there will be an end to the rule of law. That is my own concept of the rule of law. The courts have no concept of law except what is written in the law. They have only to unfold the written words of the law for the good of the public. That is their function. It is not the function of the courts, as we have learnt, to interpret the law outside the words used and to introduce any concept, whether it appeals to them or to others.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): I do not want to interrupt the hon. Law Minister, but I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Law Minister to a statement of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to the effect that individual liberty has to be curtailed and fundamental rights have to be curtailed for the sake of social justice which is quite undefined in the Constitution.

Shri A. K. Sen: I have read that speech myself in the papers. I do not think the learned Chief Justice ever laid down the rule that in interpreting the law they have to deviate from the written words of the law. What he said is that in formulating our laws we have to take account of the requirements of social justice. There, we are at one. In fact, he was only speaking from what the Constitution has prescribed for us, namely, the directive principles of the Constitution: that our law-making must be underlined always with the necessity of bringing about social justice, but that is a different matter. The courts, in interpreting law and applying the law, only know of one thing: and that

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is, to apply and to explain and to interpret the law as expressed by the words employed by the legislature. That is their only function.

Shri Daji, in saying that they must apply the social concept, was, in my submission, really doing something completely violative of the requirements of the rule of law. If he did so, what is social concept for him may not be the same for some other party and may not be the same for others, and social concept varies from Judge to judge, so that we shall be thrown back to the olden days when the law of equity was determined by the length of the Chancellor's foot. Therefore, through centuries of experience which has served us well and served other countries well, we have accepted this principle, the principle which runs as a golden thread throughout the web of our Constitutional and legal fabric, and that is, that the judge only applies the law as it is expressed by the law-making authority in a democracy, by the Parliament and the legislatures. And when the judges forget to do that, they land themselves in difficulties.

I had occasion to comment upon it on a previous occasion, when we were amending the Constitution, making it clear that the President has the power to determine, in case of dispute, the age of retirement of a judge of a high court, instead of leaving it to the vagaries of the courts of law to be decided by an individual application or suit. When some judgments were read on the floor of the House in which it appeared that the Bill, as it was then discussed in the Select Committee itself, was discussed by the learned judges,—I did not want to say whether they were right or wrong,—but I did say that it was not proper for courts to discuss the merits of a law, of a Bill, which is under consideration of the Select Committee: because as it is well known, it is one of the privileges of Parliament that when a matter is before the Select Committee, the discussion on the merits outside must never be allowed. This principle is based on sound common sense; as we do not discuss the merits of a matter which is *sub judice* in a court of law so as to enable the judge to bear a dispassionate mind on the issues involved, so also, in order to allow and enable the Members of the Select Committee to bring to bear a dispassionate and objective judgment on the issues involved in the pending Bill, discussion on the merits are not allowed, and that discussion which is not allowed to the common men cannot also be allowed to the courts or to others.

There were criticisms in some quarters, and I think one or two Bar Associations passed resloutions saying that my remarks were unfortunate when I said that some judges took a long view of their role, meaning a stretched view of their role. Fortunately, when the matter went up to the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court themselves said that it was not proper for the judges to have discussed the merits of a Bill then pending before the Select Committee. I think Shri Banerjee, or one of his colleagues possibly, read out extracts from that judgment on that occasion. I am very glad to say that the Supreme Court laid down a very sound principle. If that principle is followed in a Constitution which divides authority between different organs of Government as ours, where the supreme authority is vested not in one body but in different organs like the legislature, the executive and the judiciary, we call it a system of limited Government; that means, a Government limited by the constitutional frame work, so that no organ can over-step the limits set for it by the Constitution itself. If one tries to do so and to encroach upon the domain of the other, conflict is bound to result. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that these organs keep to their own

spheres and do not seek to encroach upon others' domains, which are reserved for others. If they do, then the highest court entrusted with the task of maintaining the limits of constitutional government will prescribe again the limits which may never be transgressed. This is the principle of law, of constitutional propriety and constitutional prescription.

I say this because, while referring to the problem of rule of law, the unfortunate incidents, which we all regret, in a neighbouring State, had been referred to by more than one speaker, I think including the last, Dr. Aney. As I said yesterday, we need not go into the merits of that question. That would not be proper, because we do not know how and when and in what manner that unfortunate conflict is going to be resolved. But that conflict highlights one important constitutional problem, which I had been referring to and that is that all organs of the Government, including the judiciary, must never try to work or function in such a manner that they encroach, even though they may not do it deliberately, upon the field reserved for somebody else. It is only by this exercise of this caution and restraint by Parliament, by our courts and by the Government that we shall all succeed in preserving the delicate balance, which must necessarily be preserved in working a limited Government, which maintains that authority is not to be centred in one hand only, but has to be divided into several hands. The moment the authority is divided, balance has to be struck and maintained. That balance is always disturbed when those who hold the balance fail to exercise the necessary caution or restraint. This I address not merely to ourselves, because we are jealous of our paramount right within our own sphere—the supremacy of Parliament in its own sphere—but I also address it humbly, if I may say so, through you to our Judges, to our courts, who have to discharge this most important and sacred task of maintaining our Constitution, and seeing that justice is done between man and man, and that no man is deprived of his right without proper authority and that no authority is interfered in the exercise of its lawful functions. Therefore, I hope that though this incident in our neighbouring State has been rather unfortunate, it will possibly make us all more cautious and more restrained in the use of our undoubted rights and powers.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is the advice of the Attorney General, to whom the matter was referred?

Shri A. K. Sen: The advice no doubt, when it comes and when Government acts on such advice, whatever may be the decision, will be communicated to the House at the earliest possible opportunity and the hon. Member need not at all be worried about the fact that the Government will not communicate its decision to the House.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The whole State is on fire.

Shri A. K. Sen: If there is fire, one does not put it down just by words, but by proper methods. This is all I have to say about the rule of law. While I say so, I am extremely proud again to say that our judicial system, our system of law, our courts, our judges and those who maintain the courts, have set a tradition of which all of us are proud, and in comparison with other judicial systems of the world, we have nothing to be ashamed of. More than once, people learned in law, well-versed in the affairs of courts in other courts, have come here and admired the way in which our courts function fearlessly and independently, have admired the way in which our laws are framed within the limits of law—when I say law, I mean the limits of constitutional law —and the marvellous way in which they dispense justice, and how even the highest in the Government obey

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the dictates of law, without trying to subvert the system.

The difficulties that have occurred, particularly the difficulties relating to expedition and the cost involved in litigation, are no doubt difficulties which we have to take note of and to surmount. But nevertheless, they do not make the system which is essentially a sound one any the worse. With regard to those difficulties, I shall certainly try to say what I have to say, though the matter does not rest with the Central Government entirely, because as hon. Members will see, administration of Justice is an exclusively State subject under the Constitution—it is Item 3 in List II. Therefore, all that we can do is to render such assistance as we are capable of and to put into action a common programme for all the States relating to administration of justice by consultation and coordination of activities, as we try to do from time to time by periodical meetings of Law Ministers.

Let me first deal with these two matters, namely, the cost involved in our litigation and secondly the delay involved. Compared to other countries, the cost possibly would not be too great, but compared to the purchasing power of the income of our common man, the costs, I have no hesitation in saying, are undoubtedly heavy for the common man. The system is such, the charging of fees by lawyers is such—and the absence of a system of free legal aid to the poor makes it much worse—that the common man frequently goes back, as has been rightly said by one of the hon. Members, from the portals of justice empty-handed. There can be no more severe condemnation of a system of justice than that a poor man has to go back without getting the fruits of justice simply because he has no money to pay for justice. In other countries where litigation is very expensive, like England, where you have the dual system of attorneys and barristers and it is much more expensive than in this country, this great evil has been remedied by the formulation and by the functioning of an admirable system of legal aid to the poor, so that today the litigant public and the bar have both prospered and benefited by this system. There is hardly any unemployed lawyer in England today, thanks to the system of legal aid to the poor, and there is no poor litigant in England today who cannot get justice simply because he has not got the means to pay for it.

13 hrs.

Hon. Members will, therefore, recall—it is quite true and I acknowledge it with a deep sense of shame—that I had referred to it year after year ever since 1957 when I took charge of this Ministry and initiated the first enterprise for bringing about a proper and scientific system of legal aid for the poor. We did work out a scheme and set up a committee. That scheme was circulated to the different States and in 1960 when the Law Ministers met we placed it before them. But, unfortunately, it appeared that the States were not prepared to bear the cost of the scheme. In fact, the actual volume of expenses were not even worked out. They can never be worked out unless they are put into action. This scheme was formulated by studying other schemes in advanced countries like England where this scheme has worked very well. The scheme was applied partially and fairly successfully in the State of Kerala, and in so far as it has been applied it has worked very well. The whole scheme, I must say with a sense of shame, has foundered and has made no progress simply because we have not the money. I have not been able to persuade the Central Government to find the entire money nor have I been able to influence the States to agree upon footing the entire bill. Therefore, what we are doing is only that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are getting the

benefit of legal aid, and the poor people belonging to other categories are not yet enjoying that benefit. I have no doubt in saying that today in our scale of priorities.....

Shri Sinhasan Singh: In Uttar Pradesh even the Scheduled Castes are not getting this aid.

Shri A. K. Sen: Then the State is not bearing 50 per cent of the cost. The Centre will always pay 50 per cent of the cost if the State bears 50 per cent.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: That means they are not paying 50 per cent?

श्री अ० कु० सेन : यह आप देखिये और आप पता लगा लीजिये कि वहां की सरकार पचास परसेंट भी देने को तैयार नहीं है ।

That is the position. I have no doubt, let us all frankly admit, that in our scale of priorities today a factory, an irrigation canal and such other things enjoy much greater importance than the system of justice which, in my submission, is of paramount importance and a system which must see that the poor man gets justice. I have not been able to follow myself why we have been miserly in allocating the necessary funds. The funds, I am sure, will not be very great. As between the States and the Centre the funds for working the scheme will not be very great, I can assure the House, and yet the funds have not come. I always hope that before I lay down the reins of responsibility of this Ministry, when I retire from this Ministry, I will be able to see a fine, scientific system of legal aid for the poor being well established. I do not know if that dream of mine, that great hope of mine will mature before I leave this Ministry.

An Hon. Member: Abolish court-fees and stamp duty.

Shri A. K. Sen: About court fees, stamps and so on I cannot say anything, because it is entirely for the States to see whether they will go on charging for stamps and court fees. But if you have, again, a good system of legal aid for the poor, the court fees and stamps would not come in the way, as in England, because a poor litigant will be exempt from paying court fees and for stamps.

Therefore, the evils of a costly system of justice are completely mitigated by an admirable system of legal aid for the poor. In his celebrated book *The Road to Justice*, Lord Jennings has detailed how in olden days —he is quoting from Dickens' *Pickwick Papers* and others—a man who entered the portals of justice never went back except in rags, except in tattered clothes. Every litigant who went to the courts then went back completely impoverished and pauperised. But, he says that those days are gone today because today the admirable system of legal aid for the poor has brought justice to the door of the common man. As I said, all these criticisms are inherent in a system of free justice like ours where you have to engage professional men to do the job and the State requires some funds to run the system. But those evils can be completely met, as I said, by this system of legal aid for the poor.

Then, Sir, with regard to expedition, however much you may cry unless, again, we appoint enough judges and enough courts we shall never be able to tackle the problem. Litigation in every form has grown. Look at the large number of complaints. Even Sarpanches and Nyaya Panchayats have to adjudge cases every day. Every day new rights are created, and when you create new rights you at once create new litigation. Shri Chatterjee rightly referred to the expeditious way in which the People's Courts work in the Soviet Union. In fact, they work in other countries too. The reason is, if I may tell him—I have found it out myself—in the Russian part of Russia only there are 36,000 courts—People's

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Courts—and each court sometimes has more than two benches. As a result of that, their work from day to day never accumulates. But here we have got only District Courts or Sub-Divisional Courts at the most, and every one has to run to the city or sub-divisional headquarters for filing his plaint. With the limited number of magistrates and judges that we have, it is not physically possible to cope up with the work. I have intimate knowledge of the courts of law having lived there all my life.

Shri K N. Tiwary (Bagaha): Now we have Nyaya Panchayats.

Shri A. K. Sen: I am coming to that. Unless you increase their number and you also make the procedure simpler—that we have been trying to do—matters will not improve. So far as Nyaya Panchayats are concerned, we must give them a fairly good jurisdiction. Just now, in fact, one of our most competent officers, Shri Rajagopalan, who headed the committee we set up for reporting on the Nyaya Panchayats, has come out with an admirable report. I think we placed it on the Table here. Now I have been given a copy of the Manual that he has prepared for our Nyaya Panchayats. It is an admirable thing. I think I shall publish it as soon as I can for the knowledge of our people as also for the benefit of our hon. Members here. In that a simple procedure has been laid, how a plaint is to be filed, how the thing is to be carried out expeditiously in a court of law etc. If that system can be applied at least in our inferior courts, I think the problem of expedition, with the appointment of a large number of magistrates and judges, will be successfully met. But the States and the Government must be prepared to pay the bill for a large number of magistrates and judges. You cannot do the work of 100 people with only 5 people. Nobody can do it.

An Hon. Member: Appoint honorary magistrates.

Shri A. K. Sen: Now, Sir, the next question is about elections—I am only taking up the fundamental questions. Having regard to our experience in the last three general elections, I have asked the Chief Election Commissioner to submit a report as quickly as he can giving his recommendations for such changes in the law as he may deem necessary. I propose to put that report before the House and have a discussion on it, so that we may discuss the report of the Chief Election Commissioner and arrive at our own decisions either to accept his report *in toto* or with such variations as we may think fit and proper.

13·10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

But what I want to emphasise is that with regard to this question of elections let us not be divided party-wise. Election is one thing which must be kept above party level, and I am very proud to say that we have so far succeeded in doing so. And that is the secret of the great success we have achieved in initiating a system of adult franchise, including 200 million of adult voters within its fold, and in holding elections spread over this vast country, from Ladakh to Cape Comorin, traversing wide, high mountains, rivers and so on, with such speed and efficiency simply because on the question of elections, procedure and machinery, we have not in this House ever been divided on party lines. We have always treated the Chief Election Commissioner almost on the same level as the Supreme Court Judge so that we have not allowed him to be criticised for anything excepting on matters of principle. If we continue our convention in that line, I have no doubt that our election system, our election machinery and the guarantee it brings for ensuring a fair and impartial election will always be a matter of pride for us, because unless the machinery works impartially and fairly there can

be no parliamentary democracy in the true sense of the term. Otherwise, elections will always be forged elections and only chosen men would be elected and the machinery will only register those votes which may be considered as convenient. Therefore, it is not necessary to go into all the details of the matters that have been raised regarding the elections.

But one matter I want to mention specifically, and that is the question of election expenses, which was referred to by the last Speaker, Dr. Aney. All of us have been worried at the enormous expenditure which elections involve nowadays both for Assembly seats and also for Parliamentary seats. I was very jealous of Shri Sinhasan Singh when he told us that he spent only Rs. 300. Well, I wish him to come to Calcutta or near about and try to run an election.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: It is a rich and wealthy city, rolling in money.

Shri A. K. Sen: It is not such a wealthy city. Even in the villages the amount of petrol consumed is quite heavy. I have tried to figure it out and there are several reasons. I entirely agree with hon. Members that unless there is some change none but the rich or none but the candidates proposed by rich parties or parties having large funds at their command, including the party of Dr. Sen opposite, can stand for election.

Shri Ram Sevak Yadav: Unless you remove the economic disparities it is not possible.

Shri A. K. Sen: The Congress Party is a big party. But other parties also have large funds at their disposal.

As I said, let us be quite clear on this that it will not be possible for a man with ordinary means to stand for elections, and having regard to our taxation structure and our objective of ensuring equality of income very few people a generation from now on would honestly be able to accumulate such savings as would enable him to spend so much money for eletcions. As a result, only a few types of people would come into the political arena to fight election battles and possibly the best elements might not be willing to risk the chances of not only losing the elections but also losing such large sums of money. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance, and I agree with the hon. Members who have raised this point —and this point has been raised from all sections of the House including this side—that we must make all genuine efforts to see that elections are not made into a question of horse trading where whoever pays more wins the elections.

There are several things we have to attend to in order to ensure that. Firstly, the size of the electorate and the media of mass communication necessary to reach such a vast electorate. In England and America we have seen the expenses becoming comparatively cheap by reason of the television. A man reaches millions of voters in a second through the television. So that all this paraphernalia of holding meetings at every village and at every corner with microphones, with posters, with leaflets and everything else is dispensed with in those countries. Imagine the expenses that we have to incur for a parliamentary seat in an urban area, the amount to be spent for publicity material alone for meetings, the petrol consumed and other things. Let us all figure it out honestly among ourselves without giving our language a public shade. Then we shall find out that having regard to the size of the electorate and having regard to the necessity of reaching the voters, each one of which has the right to vote and the absence of modern equipments to reach each votes, the expenses become very high.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : उस में जो एक्सपेंसिज रिटर्न का नियम है, उस को तो रिवूव कर दिया जाये। लोगों से झूठ क्यों बुलवाया जाता है ?

Shri A. K. Sen: That was a suggestion made to the Chief Election Commissioner. Hon. Members may recall that many people felt, irrespective of party affiliations, that at least that is a check.

An hon. Member: There is no check.

Shri A. K. Sen: Anyway, we shall discuss it later. I agree that it has not been a very effective check and I am completely convinced that by merely putting a limit in law for election expenses you will not solve this problem; but, by changing this law you will not solve this problem either. This problem can only be solved by the State supplying for the electorate at the time of elections those facilities, supplying some facilities to the candidate who contest the elections, which alone will make the expenses of each individual candidate to come within reasonable limits.

Shri Himmatsingka (Godda): What about Pakistan's basic democrarcy?

Shri J. P. Jyotishi (Sagar): What are those facilities?

Shri A. K. Sen: I have not thought about it myself. It will possibly vary from place to place; it will vary according to the nature of the terrain, the nature of the people, the nature of the communications involved etc. But I am convinced that by changing the law only you will not solve the problem. We have to afford those facilities to the candidates so that they can reach the voters and try to convince them either on their side or against the opposite side, according to known methods.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: By removing the limitation on expenses you will make the man honest.

श्री राममेवक यादव : बिड़ला के रहते ईमानदारी और निष्पक्ष चुनाव असम्भव है ।

Shri A. K. Sen: That is a different matter. As I said, we need not go into those questions because we all know that by merely changing the law putting a legal limit you do not solve the problem.

Then, Dr. Lohia raised the other important question about the protection of all minorities in this country. He says the Government has failed to give protection to every one in this country and to uphold article 21 and, therefore, he says the Law Ministry should not be voted a single rupee. Whether it is the responsibility of the Law Ministry or not to protect the minorities is a different matter. I could have answered this objection merely by saying that it is not my responsibility, but I do not intent to do so, because that would be really avoiding the issue which is basic. I strongly deny, and it will be unfair to our great democracy, if any suggestion is ever made that we have failed to afford the completest of protection to our minorities, and I think this House will completely disapprove of any allegation of this nature.

Shri Ram Sevak Yadav: What about Rourkela and Jamshedpur?

Shri A. K. Sen: The minorities in this country have enjoyed the greatest of rights. We are proud that the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha or the Vice-President is a representative of the minority community. We are proud that two of our esteemed colleagues in the Cabinet are members of the minority community. The Constitution which guides our destinies knows no difference between a member of the majority community or the minority community. The Constitution guarantees equal rights for all, and our courts have never hesitated in seeing that those who are in charge of administering our laws observe that great principle of equality.

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav: What is the practice? A man is released from jail even before his term expires, while a poor man suffers? What is

the reply to this? What about Nanavati?

Shri A. K. Sen: As I say, this country is proud of the fact that those who have been administering our laws, our Parliament and our courts, have given the completest of protection to everyone, whether of the majority or of the minority, and there is no minority or majority in our legal system. Everyone is a citizen of India.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Even in the Constitution the word 'minority' is not mentioned at all.

Shri Rem Sewak Yadav: I will bring to the notice of the hon. Minister . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav: * *

Mr. Deputy-Speaker That will not form part of the record.

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav: * *

Shri A. K. Sen: If there is one thing that we have achieved during the last 17 years of our free government it is this that we have demonstrated openly and publicly to the whole world that any member of the country, whether he belongs to one religion ar another, to one linguistic group or another, can aspire to and has, in fact, reached the highest limits of governmental authority. On the contrary, the allegation has been that this Government and this Parliament has been more partial to the minorities.

I read the other day one paper in which it is said, "Why should the poor Hindus be given protection? They should all become Muslims; then Pandit Nehru's Government will afford them protection." I was amazed to read that. But while I was amazed, I felt also very proud that it is an acknowledgement of the anxiety and the faith of this Government in its determination to uphold the two rights to every citizen of the country and I strongly refute any suggestion that anywhere in this country during the last 15 years the minorities have been denied the fullest protection of law.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Pakistan still falsely maligns us.

Shri A. K. Sen: We are not in the habit of accepting Pakistan as a precedent.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Counter the propaganda.

Shri A. K. Sen: We accept Pakistan as a precedent for other things but not for good behaviour.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Counter the false propaganda against us.

Shri A. K. Sen: Yes, of course, in that certainly it has set down a very good precedent; but in matters of good behaviour, I hope, we shall not, in this House at least . . .

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I said, "What are you doing to counter that false propaganda?"

Shri A. K. Sen: That is for the hon. Prime Minister to answer; I cannot. But I shall certainly join in any endeavour that the hon. Member makes in countering the false propaganda.

About the separation of the executive from the judiciary, it is true again that it is not our responsibility; but I personally feel that there can be no freedom and independence of our judges unless the judiciary is completely free from the executive. From the progress report—I think, it is submitted by the Home Ministry from time to time—I find that in eight States a complete separation has been

**Not recorded.

[Shri A. K. Sen]

brought about and in some other States it is in the process; but in those States where they have not yet been able to achieve a complete separation, I hope, they will try to accelerate the pace as much as they can. In fact, while I was addressing the Assam State Lawyers' Convention—Shri Barua was there—last time I particularly emphasized this aspect of the problem because in Assam I find, as was pointed out by the President in his own address, they had not brought about yet a separation of the judiciary from the executive. I have no doubt that the Home Ministry here is keeping its attention closely fixed to this paramount need of separation of the judiciary from the executive. I have no doubt that when the Home Ministry's demands come if hon. Members raise this point, the hon. Home Minister will be able to answer the point much better as to the steps they have taken.

I do not think there are any other fundamental matters which I have left out and I am afraid, I have not the time to deal with other details which have been raised excepting one point which Shri Trivedi mentioned about the CPWD and the Railways not consulting the Law Ministry in appointing persons as arbitrators. I find that in the CPWD contracts themselves the arbitrator is mentioned. The Railways, of course, function separately. In most of the CPWD contracts it is mentioned that in case of dispute the Superintending Engineer or some other officer would be the officer chosen for adjudicating upon the disputes as an arbitrator. In regard to other matters, it never comes to us individually like this; but for cases over Rs. 1 lakh we have a panel of High Court Judges, eminent judges, like Shri V. R. Sen, retired Judge of the Nagpur High Court—this is the Delhi list that I am giving; we have the Calcutta list and the Bombay list—Shri Bind Basni Prasad, Shri Randhir Singh, Shri Brij Mohan Lal. There are about 20 ex-High Court judges who are on the panel and the departments take anyone of them from this panel. When disputes arise between arbitrators, it is referred to the umpire.

Similarly, we have a panel of District Judges for matters involving an amount of less than Rs. 1 lakh and from that panel they take. For each individual case it is not necessary that the Law Ministry should be consulted. It is not proper either. When you have fixed a panel of High Court and District Judges, you leave it to them in case a dispute arises. In most of the other contracts of Defence, CPWD, Railways and so on, the arbitrator is mentioned by the parties themselves; so, the question of anybody else being appointed does not arise.

Shri R. Barua (Jorhat): What about the proposed legislation for the terms and conditions of service of the employees of the Secretariats of the two Houses? Is any legislation proposed to be brought for defining the service conditions .

Shri A. K. Sen: Service conditions is the Home Ministry's function.

Dr. M. S. Aney: A reference to the Mohammedan Law Enquiry Committee has been omitted this year and no provision is made.

Shri A. K. Sen: We have not decided to appoint it yet. As the hon. Member is aware, after the emergency and in view of various other factors which I do not want to mention in the House, the Government did not think it proper to proceed with the enquiry commission. It was not of such an urgent nature just at this time.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What are you doing with the Religious Endowments Bill?

Shri A. K. Sen: About the Religious Endowments Bill, the Commission's report was placed. It has been

considered by all the States. A sub-committee of the Cabinet is now enquiring into the various suggestions made by the different States and other authorities. Because all the States are not uniform in their views about the necessity of a central legislation, we are now studying the matter and a high power sub-committee of the Cabinet has been formed. I hope, we shall come to a decision before long.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह जानकारी है कि राजनीतिक दलों को मान्यता देने के सिलसिले में ऐसे उम्मीदवार जिन की जमानतें जब्त हो जाती हैं, उन के मतों को शुमार नहीं किया जाता है । क्या इस सिलसिले में किसी राजनीतिक दल ने आप को लिखा है और यह भी लिखा है कि यह बात संविधान के विपरीत जाती है ? यदि हां, तो क्या कार्यवाही होने जा रही है ताकि जो ऐसे मत हैं, उन का भी शुमार हो सके क्योंकि मतों की जब्ती संविधान के विपरीत है ?

Shri A. K. Sen: If there has been any such case, it is most unfortunate. If the hon. Member sends such a case, we shall, no doubt, make an inquiry in this matter.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: His point is different.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : केस का सवाल नहीं है । जिन उम्मीदवारों की जमानतें जब्त हो जाती हैं, ऐसे उम्मीदवारों के वोट राजनीतिक दलों को मान्यता देने के सिलसिले में शुमार नहीं किये जाते हैं ।

Shri A. K. Sen: That is a case. A case need not be in a court. A case means an instance. I do not know of any such instance.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: My hon. colleague, Shri R. Barua, asked a question but, I am afraid, the hon. Minister could not quite appreciate it. His question was this. Under article 98 of the Constitution there is a provision in clause (2) that, "Parliament may by law etc.". There are several other articles like that which state that Parliament may by law provide for certain things. Here this article says:

> "Parliament may by law regulate the recruitment, and the conditions of service of persons appointed, to the secretarial staff of either House of Parliament."

Pending such legislation, the President may do this or that, under clause (3) of Article 98. We want to know the position regarding this. Who will introduce the Bill?

Shri A. K. Sen: I am not quite sure, but I think that this particular matter would be one pertaining either to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs or the Ministry of Home Affairs; certainly it does not pertain to my Ministry. So, I am not in a position to answer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the cut motions to vote.

All the cut motions were put and negatived

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against demands Nos. 74 to 76 relating to the Ministry of Law.".

The motion was adopted.

[*The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.*]

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

DEMAND No. 74—MINISTRY OF LAW

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 42,22,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in the respect of 'Ministry of Law'."

DEMAND No. 75—ELECTIONS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,74,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Elections'."

DEMAND No. 76—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,02,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Law'."

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

DEMAND No. 98—DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,97,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Department of Posts and Telegraphs'."

DEMAND No. 99—OVERSEAS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,45,48,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Overseas Communications Service'."

DEMAND No. 100—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (WORKING EXPENSES)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,13,45,76,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Posts and Telegraphs (Working Expenses)'."

DEMAND No. 101—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DIVIDEND TO GENERAL REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS TO RESERVE FUNDS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,09,87,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Posts and Telegraphs Dividend to General Revenues and Appropriations to Reserve Funds'."

DEMAND No. 102—OTHER REVENUES EXPENDITURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 24,29,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of

payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs'."

DEMAND NO. 145—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (NOT MET FROM REVENUE)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 38,53,67,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs (Not meet from Revenue)'."

DEMAND NO. 146—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 42,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs'."

Shri R. Barua: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Department of Posts and Telegraphs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need for rebuilding the Jorhat Post Office.* (2)]

"That the demand under the head Department of Posts and Telegraphs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need for a telephone exchange building at Jorhat.* (3)]

"That the demand under the head Department of Posts and Telegraphs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need for a crash programme for constructing staff quarters.* (4)]

"That the demand under the head Department of Posts and Telegraphs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need for avoiding wastage in Stores.* (5)].

Shri Yashpal Singh (Kairana): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Posts and Telegraphs (Working Expenses) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to open new Post and Telegraph Offices in rural areas.* (6)]

"That the demand under the head Posts and Telegraphs (Working Expenses) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to construct quarters for employees.* (7)]

"That the demand under the head Posts and Telegraphs (Working Expenses) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need for increasing the facility for sending telegrams in Hindi.* (8)]

"That the demand under the head Posts and Telegraphs (Working Expenses) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to instal teleprinters for transmission of material in Hindi.* (9)]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These Demands and Cut Motions are now before the House.

Dr. Ranen Sen (Calcutta East): At the outset, let me welcome the formation of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. It is a matter for gratification that the Posts and Telegraphs Department has been separated from the former Transport and Communications Ministry. It is also a matter for gratification that this Department is handling an increasing volume of work and is trying to cater to the growing needs of the people.

If we go through the report, we find certain encouraging features. For instance, new sections are being opened. This department has started making a profit. It employs a total of nearly 4 lakhs of employees. Yet, I must point out that the P. & T. Board does not enjoy the same status as the Railway Board, even though it pays the same percentage to the general revenues as the railways.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is a new creation.

Dr. Ranen Sen: Last year, the Department paid Rs. 4 crores to the general revenues. Still, the P. & T. Board is not an autonomous body like the Railway Board. In matters of overall schemes intended to provide amenities or facilities to the staff, the Finance Ministry is the supreme authority still, and unlike in the Railway Board, everytting in this regard is being determined by the Finance Ministry. It is high time that the Government of India try to improve the status of this Department and give it the same status as that of the Railway Board, because that will facilitate the better functioning of the P. & T. Department, and that will be conducive to the interest of the public as well.

While I congratulate the Department on doing some good work, and I wish that it will go on doing some more good work for the interest of the people and the country, I would like to make some criticisms and point out certain difficulties and bottlenecks. Firstly, I want to refer to a very important question which was raised the other day by my hon. friends Shri Daji, Shri Warior and some others, regarding the proposed contract with the Bell Telephone company of Belgium. There are two aspects in this case which I would like to raise again. Of course, there were some questions put the other day and some answers were also given, but I would like to raise this issue again. After I have gone through the answers given by the hon. Minister, I still find that it is quite evident that the equipment for 48,000 telephones will cost us Rs. 50 lakhs more as compared with the quotations given by the other companies, for instance, the Japanese ones, and this amount has to be paid in foreign currency. This is another very important matter. Added to this, 30 per cent. will have to be paid by way of customs duties etc. on Government imports. So, naturally, the figure of Rs. 50 lakhs would go up to about Rs. 70 lakhs. Then, there are Government charges which include 5 per cent. interest on loan, 15 per cent. on technical maintenance etc. The result is that ultimately it would go up to nearly one crore of rupees. This is the calculation that I have made. That means that for 48,000 telephones, this country has to pay Rs. 1 crore more. It comes to nearly Rs. 40 per telephone as the recurring expenditure. It means that the public has to bear Rs. 40 more because of our Government entering into these negotiations for finalising the contract.

The second point in this regard is this. The other day the hon. Minister said that the factory would be cheaper. I would like to know what this mystery of cheapness is. Firstly, the BTM has neither guaranteed the prices of machinery nor of raw materials. Take, for example, the case of a lathe machine which would be necessary. BTM will not supply the lathe machine but the Department will have to procure it from outside. Supposing they have quoted Rs. 5000 for a

machine, since they are not supplying the machine, Government will have to procure it from outside and may have to pay Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000 for that. So, it is no good saying that it will be cheaper. Ultimately, it will be costlier.

Again, the third point is this. The other day, the hon. Minister has said in the course of his replies to questions that out of the three officers, one Mr. Vasudevan, who is supposed to be an expert, has recommended this deal. Why did Government reject the opinion of the other two officers? What is the reason for that? I did not want to mention any name, but since the hon. Minister had mentioned the name of the officer here on the floor of this House the other day, I am also mentioning it; otherwise, I would not have mentioned it at all. Is it because of the fact that this officer is a near-relative of our Finance Minister? Is it due to the pressure of the Finance Minister on the department that the recommendation of this officer has been accepted and the position taken by the other two officers was not considered at all? I want a clear answer on this point.

My next point is that as was pointed out the other day, this company is a counterpart of the French company CGCT. They are all affiliated with or subsidiary to the American Company ITT. This counterpart French company took part in espionage work. It has been proved and established, and it was reported in the Cairo newspapers and it is also known to the Government of India. I do not know why such a company has been entrusted with the task of this telephone business. This is a serious thing from the economic and the political point of view. This is a completely undesirable proposal. I hope the Government of India and the hon. Minister will take adequate steps not to enter into such negotiations and such contracts.

While I have admitted certain achievements of the Department, it is my duty also to point out certain shortfalls, certain loopholes and certain lacuna. The first point in this regard is in regard to the posts and telegraphs buildings. It is common knowledge, and it is also mentioned in the report that the volume of work is increasing. But look at our post offices in cities or towns. They are in a horrible condition of overcrowding and great congestion. This is our own experience. We have got information from various parts of the country. This is the common complaint of the public. The efficiency of the service has deteriorated and the public suffers. Therefore, it is high time the P. & T. Department took cognisance of this.

Last year the then Minister in charge promised that Government was going to take certain vigorous steps in regard to staff quarters and office buildings. But during the year, we do not notice any sign of improvement in the position. I would not have raised this question if it had not affected the employees and public as well.

Shri Yashpal Singh: On a point of order. There is no quorum.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The first quorum bell to be rung today.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not a point of order.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Any question of violation of the Constitution or Rules can be brought in as a point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung—Now there is quorum. Yes, Dr. Sen.

Dr. Ranen Sen: I was speaking about the staff position. We have found that the people working in the post offices are overworked. When we made enquiries, we came to know certain very wonderful things. In the whole process of sanctioning of posts,

[Dr. Ranent Sen]

recruitment, training and police verification, there is a bottleneck created and as a result for months and months posts are not filled up. It is for the Minister to look into the matter and see why there is this under-staffing. This goes on to the detriment of the interests of the public as also of the employees.

Here I want to raise another point. I have not been able to understand one thing, and I hope the Minister will explain. In the report, I find stated that at the present moment, the Secretary of the Department of P. & T. is the Chairman of the P. & T. Board as well as the Director General of the P. & T. How can all the three functions be discharged by one person.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He is very efficient perhaps.

Dr. Ranen Sen: But I want to know how he could devote sufficient time to each of these functions. Anyway, it is not possible for any one person to do these three jobs.

Now I come to the question of employees' housing. I have already referred to the promise of the then Minister last year to improve the housing conditions. Compared to the railway employees, their housing condition is very bad. Compared to other Departments of Government, the housing condition of the P. & T. department is the worst.

I want want to refer to certain demands of the employees here. In page 31 of the Demands for Grants, they speak of enlargement of the P. & T. Welfare Fund. But I find the same amount of money granted since 1962-63. So how is the fund enlarged? With regard to the Labour Welfare Fund, the allotment is decreased. So I fail to understand how it can be claimed that in regard to the employees' welfare, labour welfare, any improvement has been made. If the allocations are any indication, there has been no improvement.

There is another difficulty experienced by the public. That is in regard to the postal life insurance scheme. In ordinary life insurance under the savings scheme, every year a statement of account is given to the particular person from whose salary deductions have been made for payment of premium. But in the postal life insurance scheme, no such statement is furnished to the insured. As a result, there have been cases where employees have been told on maturity of the policy, when they retire, that in a certain year 10 or 15 years ago, their premium was not paid. Thus they are not in a position to realise the sum accrued. This is a serious matter which should be looked into. The postal life insurance department should have no difficulty in furnishing to the insured an annual statement of account.

While going through the report, I found that though there is improvement in many sectors, the ITI, Bangalore, is not able to reach its target. Has there been any inquiry into this? I had recently been in Bangalore. I saw the factory. I want to know what is the reason for the shortfall. There have been enough instances given in the audit report of losses, bad contracts, extravagance etc. It is time the P. & T. department went into the matter very seriously and tightened up the whole thing.

Now I come to a very important question. Though I do not want to enter into any controversy, this is an important point and I want to raise it here and now. In regard to the propagation of Hindi—as I said, it is a dangerous field and I do not want to enter into any controversy—I am sorry to say certain things, to which I shall refer now. I regard to the propagation of Hindi, I have no quarrel—I can read, write and speak Hindi; I have learnt it. But it is stated here under 'Propagation of Hindi'. 'Printing Invitations in Hindi also'—I have no objection. 'Replying Hindi communications in Hindi'—I have no objection. But 'Issuing circulars and

orders relating to class IV employees in Hindi also'. Why so in non-Hindi areas? It may be said that Hindi is introduced in addition to English, but, at the same time why is there no use of the regional language?

An Hon. Member: Hindi also.

Dr. Ranen Sen: Do not say Hindi also. In the Calcutta Telephone House, for instance, I am glad that there is no English inscription. It is written Telephone Bhavan in Hindi, but it should be written in Bengali, also. This is my point. Do not say in Hindi also. I say it should be in Bengali, Tamil, Punjabi, Assamese, in the regional language. What is wrong in that?

Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain): No English, only Hindi and the regional language.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Correct, agreed.

Dr. Ranen Sen: This is very objectionable. This is a sort of imposition that will help neither Hindi nor anybody. This is the point I want to make.

Though it is not quite relevant here, I see that in Howrah Station the departure and arrival times of trains are given in English first and then in Hindi, as if all the people in that State know either English or Hindi, as if they have no language other than Hindi. This is the work of the Government of India. I am sorry it helps no one. I am glad our friends have accepted my point.

Then I shall come hurriedly to some of the grievances of the employees. Their first grievance is about dearness allowance. This is a common grievance of all employees. The arrears should have been paid from 1st November 1961, but they are being paid from July, 1963. The Ministry should take it up and do something in this respect.

The second grievance relates to the balance payment to be made by them under the Compulsory Deposit Scheme. This has to be paid before the 31st March. When the scheme itself is going, why make these poor employees pay it? They did not incur debts in order to pay it. Why make them incur debts and pay it before 31st March, 1964, when from 1st April the scheme itself is going? It is a wonderful thing. This is a great burden on the employees.

Thirdly, people recruited in Madhya Pradesh are part of the Maharashtra circle, as a result of which they are losing their chances of promotion. A long time ago it was agreed by the Government of India that a Madhya Pradesh Circle should be established. This is also a genuine demand of the employees, and so there should be no difficulty in establishing the circle.

People are still being victimised for their participation in the 1960 strike. This is 1964, and from a humanitarian point of view, it is high time that all those punishments are given up. Even now, promotion has not been given to some people, and some people have been reverted. After four years, it would be magnanimous on the part of Government to consider it from a human point of view and do justice to these poor employees. After all, that was a strike in which lakhs of people participated, and there should be no longer any victimisation.

The last point is about telephone booths in the Calcutta suburban railway stations, which I mentioned in one of the Consultative Committee meetings at which the hon. Minister Shri A. K. Sen was present. I made the proposal six months back, the hon. Minister said he would consider it, but I do not know what has happened. At least these telephone booths are not present. Lakhs of people come to Calcutta and go out every day, and there are no telephone booths in the suburban stations. It is high time that the P. & T. Department paid attention to this.

Shri Maniyangadan (Kottayam): I support the Demands of the P. & T. Department.

The functioning of the P. & T. Board has not been very happy. We all welcomed the formation of the Board, but due to some difficulties, which I do not know, the Board is not having full powers over the department to do all that is necessary for the development of its activities. So, I fully endorse the views expressed by the previous speaker that the Board should be on a par with the Railway Board.

I have to submit that the telephone system according to the experience of several subscribers, is functioning in a very inefficient way. If we want to book a trunk call, it is very difficult to get at the operator. Even if we book it, we have to wait for hours at times, and after several hours we hear the reply that the line is not clear or that there is some difficulty somewhere. So, while congratulating the department on the developments that have been taken place in this field, I also request them to look into the matter of efficiency.

There is a lot of delay in the delivery of letters, especially in mofussil places. If a letter is sent from Delhi to a place in the South, there is the train which takes it to its destination, but beyond that it takes another two or three days to reach the addressee. Why all this delay? This is my own experience, and I can quote instances also, but I do not want to take up the time of the House. A letter sent from here to Kottayam or some other place must be made available to the addressee at least the next day; if it is a village, it may take another day or two. So, the present arrangement for transporting postal articles is not at all happy, and I would submit that this matter may be looked into.

I have to bring to the notice of the Department the case of certain employees of former Part B States who were taken over by the P. & T. Deperatment. I refer particularly to some employees who were taken over from the Telephone Department in the State of Travancore-Cochin. I make special mention of some telephone operators who were taken over on 1st April 1950 as a result of integration. These officers of the Travancore telephones were in the cadre of telephone operators on 1st April 1950 and they are working as such without any break in service. But strangely enough, their service as telephone operators at a subsequent period was categorised as lineman telephone operators—a cadre which did not exist in that department. The Travancore Public Service Commission recruited them and they possessed the requisite qualifications. This action is in contravention of the direction of the Finance Ministry but some lame excuse have been given. One such excuse is that after such a long time it is not possible to correct the mistakes. But since these officers are suffering a lot on account of this discrimination, this may be looked into.

14 hrs.

Now, Sir, Kerala circle was formed about 2 or 3 years ago. It is still a minor circle. I do not know why it is kept as a minor circle. I suggest that it may be upgraded as a major unit. It is still retained as a minor unit without giving any reasons.

About the construction of buildings, I do not know whether due to emergency they have put off construction of residential quarters for officers. This was referred to by the previous speaker. I can speak from my experience; in Kerala circle there are certain regions especially in the high ranges where unless accommodation is provided, officers working there would not find any room to stay. For several years we have requested that quarters may be constructed and certain steps for the acquisition of land and other things had been taken but no steps are taken for constructing

these quarters. Similarly, with regard to buildings for housing post offices, there are certain very old and condemned buildings which are retained without either reconstruction or repairs. In this connection, I may make special mention of the head post office at Kottayam—a building constructed about a century back to suit the requirements of that time. During all these years, the number of workers have expanded so much but still they are asked to utilise that building alone. I do not know what happened to the provision included in the budget in one year, and in the papers it was reported that the officers replied in the last advisory meeting that they were awaiting orders from Delhi. I do not know why the order is being delayed so much. There are several other instances where these matters have to be taken up expeditiously. Since I referred to Kottayam, I may mention another thing also: telegraph and teleprinter office at Kottayam. It is a town from where seven daily papers come out. We have got teleprinter service at Ernakulam and Travancore but not at this place. I request the Minister to look into this also; the department has been asked to establish one in this place.

I appreciate the fact that the department has taken a lot of interest and several new exchanges and new post offices are being opened. But when we come to certain areas we find that it has been sanctioned several months back but no steps are taken to open them actually on the plea that some material is not available. The department must look into these things and the materials should be made available as expeditiously as possible.

Mention was made about the language. I am not keen that Hindi should also be there in the circulars. But since we have accepted it as the national language and the Government is trying to propagate it, it is a step in the right direction if we issue circulars in Hindi also. I have no objection to circulars being issued in regional languages also. If, as the previous speaker said, it is only in Hindi, then of course, it will create a lot of difficulties. It should be in English and also in Hindi and possibly in regional languages also. These circulars are generally meant for the officers, but when a thing is advertised it must be necessarily in the regional language also. I have no objection; on the other hand I very much welcome the step taken by the department in issuing circulars in Hindi. I come from a State where Hindi is not the spoken language but since we have accepted this principle, I would welcome that.

Shri Solanki (Kaira): Sir, I join my voice also to the feelings expressed by the two former speakers that the Posts and Telegraphs Department be separated from the Ministry of Transport.

I would like to divide the efficiency measures into two parts: first of all, efficiency of the administration itself, work done in the post office and the work which is being carried out by the workers. This also forms an important part of the efficiency of administration. It is a matter of grave concern that although the posts and telegraphs department is giving a revenue of Rs. 1 crore and is almost as big as the railways, it is still depending upon the Ministry of Finance for its expenditure. If we want efficiency and quick measures to be taken. The Posts and Telegraphs Department must have the freedom to incur expenditure wherever required. Therefore, it is my humble suggestion that the P. & T. Department should also become an autonomous body like the Railway Ministry. It is only then that work will be carried out more efficiently.

We also observe that almost four lakhs of people are working in this department and it is also a matter for concern that the progress is not much, when the staff working in this depart-

[Shri Solanki]

ment gets all the facilities which are given to the railway workers. If we compare only the housing scheme, or the housing problem, of the Railway Ministry and the Posts and Telegraphs Department, we can see that the Posts and Telegraphs Department is lagging far behind that of the Railways. I can only quote what the Minister said last year regarding this matter of accommodation. He said:

> "The condition of our buildings, both official and residential, is far from satisfactory. When I took over, I did take certain action so that we can expedite the construction of both official and residential accommodation because the experience had been that though money, maybe only a modest amount, was provided in the budget, that was not being spent. So, I tried to create a separate construction division in the P. & T. Directorate. But in the meantime, the emergency came and the progress that I expected has not been achieved. I may assure the House that I am very anxious to expedite the construction of both official and residential accommodation within the amount provided to us as quickly as possible..."

Even after this assurance, nothing has been done in this direction. I believe that 5,000 quarters are to be built within the end of the third Five Year Plan, but still, it will not be enough to house the staff of the Posts and Telegraphs Department. Although the emergency prevailed, we can see that the Ministry of Railways has been able to do quite a lot for its staff, as was stated by the Railway Minister on the 19th February, 1963. He said:

> "The Railway administrations have been maintaining the necessary tempo of improvement in various measures for the welfare of staff. It is proposed to add about 12,000 residential quarters every year—more or less corresponding to what is being done from the commencement of the Second Plan—in order to improve housing facilities for staff."

So, the emergency measures have certainly not affected the Ministry of Railways, but the Posts and Telegraphs Department is still handicapped under the emergency measures and its staff is still howling and shouting for quarters and also for the post office buildings and other buildings for the administration in the cities.

Last time, when I spoke, I had mentioned the poor condition of the Posts and Telegraphs buildings in cities like Ahmedabad, Surat, Madras etc., and I still maintain that in a city like Ahmedabad, which is the capital of the Gujarat State, we are still badly equipped as far as the Posts and Telegraphs buildings are concerned. Especially in Maninagar, which is a big suburb of Ahmedabad, the condition is really shocking.

Another point which I want to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister is that the posts and Telegraphs staff so many times overworks itself to the tune of four to five hours. Even today, that working hour is not counted as overtime. I believe a committee was set up to look into this matter and already quite a lot of time has elapsed but no decision has been taken regarding this matter. This matter should be immediately considered, and the staff of the Posts and Telegraphs Department which puts more work amounting to four to five hours should be entitled to overtime.

Then, the compulsory saving deposits have been removed, and it is a relief for the middle classes, but in regard to the lower classes of the people, the amount will have to be paid towards the compulsory deposit saving by the end of the 31st March, and it is still a serious problem for the lower income groups. They are not

able to find the amounts which are to be deposited by the end of this month. Something should be done about that. Also, the indirect taxation structure is not so relief-giving, and it is still pinching the lower income groups.

Another thing which was mentioned by my hon. friend who spoke earlier was about the strike in July last. When the strike of July, 1960 was over, the matter was referred to the authorities, and some of the people were saved from punishment. But even after a period of three and a half years, we still find that some of the victims of that strike are suffering. I request the Posts and Telegraphs Department to overlook this matter and be kind and considerate and give them the benefit by getting them back to service and forget the bitterness which was caused by the strike. If we can recall, even the Defence Ministry has done the same thing and it has brought back some of the people who went on strike, and they are working all right. The Posts and Telegraphs Department could also do the same thing.

Another thing that I want to point out is with regard to the administration. When we go to the post-offices, many times it has happened that there is a shortage of forms, money-order or telegraph or any other such forms. I think it is only the duty of the department to provide such forms wherever required in adequate numbers, and we should see that no such shortfall is caused anywhere. Sometimes, it is a matter for embarrassment also for the staff working there, to tell the customer that forms are not available, and it is really causing a lot of trouble to the people who go there for service. So, immediate attention should be given to this matter and the forms should be provided in adequate numbers wherever required.

Another thing that causes concern is with regard to the opening of new head offices and sub-offices. A lot of sub post-offices and head post-offices are now being opened. There is a volume which is published. Maybe it is an annual. The last volume was published in 1961. It gives a list of the new post-offices which have been opened, but even today, if we go to a post-office, we find that some offices are not included in the volume. During these two years, some new sub-offices or departmental offices have been opened, but they are not included in the Directory of Information. So, the staff itself faces trouble. They are also not able to trace the whereabouts or the name of the post-office, and again trouble is caused. Of course, some pamphlets are published afterwards and are added to the volume, but they also become a volume by themselves, and then also additional work has to be done and trouble is caused. So, immediate action should be taken, and the post-offices should be notified regarding the new offices that are opened from time to time, so that wherever they are opened, immediately all the post-offices know the whereabouts and the people also can go there for transacting their business.

Regarding the stamps that are printed, I should like to say a few words. Even today, when the decimal system is in vogue, the stamp-sheets are printed in odd numbers like 17 and 19 and so on. They are not printed in even numbers or multiples like 125 or 150 and so on. We ought to change the old system, and now that we have a decimal system, the stamps should be printed in sheets of 25, 50 or 100, etc:

I would also like to know from the Minister whether the papers we use are imported or whether we have this paper in our own country. Regarding efficiency, I would suggest that an Efficiency Bureau should be created in several places, so that if there is a complaint or any shortage of forms or any such thing, they could study the problem and inform the authorities to meet the requirements.

[Shri Solanki]

Although new sub post-offices and post-offices are being opened, there is still a growing need for more post-offices and sub post-offices. The head offices which we require would be not less than 200 and at least 4000 branch-offices should be opened. Just to remind the Minister, I might point out that in 1947 for the accounting of 23,344 rural offices, we had head offices amounting to 188. In 1961, the rural offices have increased to 76,839, but the head offices functioning are only 289. It is indeed a matter of concern and as I said earlier, 200 head offices and 4,000 branch offices should be opened to meet the growing demand.

Another thing I would like to request the Minister is to open more public call offices. In many backward areas, public call offices are not available. There is one area in Andhra Pradesh called Rayalaseema where public call offices are required. Also, in my own State, in the Panch Mahals District and in the Kaira District, from where I come, we require more public call offices.

Lastly I would say a few words about the telephone industry. It is said that by the end of the third Plan, 3 lakhs more telephones would be available for our use. But still, there is a great shortage of telephones in the country. It seems that the Government concern in Bangalore is not able to meet the demands of the people and the industry, which is growing rapidly. In Gujarat State, I can feel it because so many people come to me regarding this. I have also noticed some shocking things in Delhi. When I came here, some industrialists approached me and said that if Members of Parliament would loan their telephone services, they are prepared to pay an amount of Rs. 4,000 for the use of their telephones. So, black-marketing, bribery and corruption have entered this department. This is due to the shortage. If we meet the demands, such things will not happen. When industries are growing and when we talk of progress, a facility like a telephone is a must for business purposes or for communications. So, if the Government is not able to meet the demands, I would suggest that they should allow private concerns to manufacture telephones, wherever the demands are more. I know they are considering to open another factory somewhere, but that should be expedited and they should try to meet this growing demand for telephones. Unless we do that, the shortage of telephones is causing great concern to our industry and people at large. Something should be done about this at once.

There is another thing. When a person requires a telephone, he deposits Rs. 2,000 but on that deposit, no interest is paid. The delay is so great that the sum of Rs. 2,000 may remain with the department for 1 or 1½ years and then the service might be available. In Japan, where such deposits are paid, interest is paid on the deposits and they try to give the facility as quickly as possible. Therefore, I urge the P. & T. Department to be more efficient in their work. Now that they are a separate body by themselves, they should try to avail themselves of the finances they require; they should try to satisfy the staff they employ and also work efficiently for the benefit of the people.

Shri Jena (Bhadrak): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and I rise to support the demands of the P. & T. Department. This department serves the largest number of people in the country. On the eve of our independence, the number of post offices was 22,116. At present, the number is 90,239. At that time one post office served on an average an area of 35 square miles. Now one post office serves an area of only 14 square miles. From this, we can judge that the number of post and telegraph offices in the country has increased a lot. But still much remains to be done. In spite of that, this Ministry deserves congratulation.

There is no doubt that the present emergency has added to the burden of their work and they are discharging the duty efficiently. Just like railways, this department has provisions to receive public complaints. They are receiving them and as far as possible they try to rectify the defects.

The number of all kinds of letters and telegrams is increasing day by day considerably. But sometimes post offices having the same name in the same district put the sorters to difficulty. Sometimes the letters are not addressed correctly and this leads to misdelivery of letters. That is why sometimes the department is put to blame. By saying so, I do not mean that there is nothing wrong in the working of this department. There is no rose without a thorn. Sometimes express letters are delivered late and telegrams reach later than we reach the place of our destination. At the same time, we must admit our own draw-backs. We should expect good work and prompt service from a man when he is well fed, nicely clad and properly housed. In my own State of Orissa, I have seen employees of the postal department coming from distant places and being put to a great difficulty in respect of housing. By saying so, I do not mean the Ministry has not done anything for providing housing to its employees. They are, of course, doing something, but not upto the demand.

I might be excused for saying that the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe employees of this department are not given a fair deal so far as my own State of Orissa is concerned. I should say that this Ministry has not done justice to that State. Orissa became a separate State in 1936, but up till now it has not got a Post Master General's office of its own. I think in the whole of our country, there will be few States which do not have there own Post Master General's office in them. We have got a large number of telephones in our State and for that, I must thank the Minister and the Ministry. But the telephone accounts office for this State is in Calcutta. Due to that difficulty, accumulated and consolidated telephone bills are received and the subscribers have to face a great deal of difficulty for paying accumulated telephone dues. So, I would request the Minister to see that Orissa gets the telephone accounts office and the PMG's office in the State.

We have got our DPT office in Cuttack, although our State capital is Bhubaneswar. I do not mind the DPT office being at Cuttack or at Bhubaneswar, but I would certainly like to say that the present DPT office at Cuttack does not have as much space as is required to work smoothly. Sometimes the staff feel difficulty in preserving the files carefully for want of space. This question was raised last time in this hon. House and Shri Jagjivan Ram, the then Communications Minister assured me that this DPT office would be shifted from Cuttack to Bhubaneswar. But I do not know whether any progress has been made in this direction.

The question of opening RMS offices at Bhadrak and Titilagarh has been long pending, since 1960. It is always said that houses are not available there to open those offices. But I should say that houses are never available unless sincere efforts are made to get them. I understand that houses are available at both the places. I would therefore request the hon. Minister to kindly see that the RMS offices are opened at these places.

The RMS section working between Vizianagram and Raipur exclusively serves the places of three districts of Orissa, namely, Kalahandi, Koraput and Bolangir. Besides this, the railway line serving this section mostly runs in Orissa. On account of the industrial development of those areas, the activities of the Postal Department have gone up. Letters addressed in Oriya or in Bengalee are delayed much in their transmission. That is due to the fact that the employees working in this section of the RMS hardly know these two languages.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): The script is also complicated.

Shri Jena: Therefore, this section has to be transferred and placed under the control of the DPT, Orissa. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly see that this section of the RMS is transferred and placed under the charge of the DPT, Orissa.

I would make a humble suggestion to the Ministry. We have got express trains from Howrah to Madras and *vice versa*. If one R.M.S. section is opened in those trains. I think the general public will be much benefited as far as postal facilities are concerned.

Coming to my constituency I will say something. There is a Sub-Post Office at Bhadrak. It has more than twenty sub-post offices under it. The volume of work of that Post Office is in no way less than that of a head office. Last year this question was raised and I was assured by Shri Jagjivan Ram, the then Communications Minister, that this will be coverted into a head office. I do not know how far this progress has been made, and I would request the hon. Minister to kindly get this conversion work expedited.

Sir, ours is a poor country and most of our rural people live in thatched houses. Thousands and thousands of these houses catch fire every year easily. There is, of course, provision of fire-fighting engines in the towns. But our rural people are deprived of this facility because they cannot run to that office and ask for help. So I would request the hon. Minister to kindly consider this question very sympathetically, and if possible the post offices at least near the *gram panchayat* offices, or schools, that is places which are linked up with roads, should have this telephone facility. This provision would have a vast amount of national wealth every year.

Then, there is a small thing. There is a branch post office at Sohora in my constituency..

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, कोरम नहीं है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung.—Now there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue.

Shri Jena: Sir, as I was saying, there is a branch post office at Sohora in my constituency. It receives its mail from a sub-office at Dhamnagar at a distance of only six miles. Sir, we are in the days of science when time and distance have been controlled by civilised society. But mails from this sub-office reach that branch office after two days. This matter has been brought to the notice of the postal authorities concerned. But up till now nothing has happened. I hope that at least from now onwards this unfortunate thing will not take place.

With these words I support the Demands and I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Shri Himatsingka: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this Department has the credit of being an efficient department amongst all the departments of the Government. I can say from my own personal experience that in Delhi sometimes I am rung up at about 2 o'clock in the night or after twelve to receive telegrams. But in the matter of certain telegrams sent from Delhi to Calcutta or from Calcutta to Delhi I do not know why it takes a very long time. Then the purpose for which the telegrams are sent is frustrated. For instance, from here I send a telegram about my departure the next day, and the telegram reaches seven or eight hours after I have reached the place. Something must be done in that direction.

As regards telephones I do not know what is wrong. Certainly, the courtesy of the operators has very much improved, and I am glad to say that they are very courteous, both at Calcutta and at Delhi, and they always speak with the word "Please". But you do not get the call. You cannot be satisfied with the courtesy only. What happens is that the telephhones are generally out of order. From Calcutta, if you want any station at any time, almost every day it is out of order. The same thing happens in

other places also. I do not know what is the reason for the telephone lines going out of order so often. Therefore, if something can be done about this, it should be done immediately. Especially Assam is a very important area, and you must have immediate connection for so many important things to be done there.

There is another thing. Even when the line is in order and working you do not get connections, even for urgent calls, for hours. If you book a call in the early morning at 5 o'clock, you don't get the connection till ten or twelve or even later. After all, there must be something done, so that calls booked in the early hours of the morning, when there is not much pressure of official work or other work, should be put through quickly. That matter should be examined as quickly as possible and something done.

I am told by another hon. Member that the charge in Calcutta per call is more than the charge at Delhi or Bombay per call. If that is correct—and I take it that it is correct—there is no reason why this difference should be maintained and in Calcutta calls should be charged more than what is charged for similar calls made at Delhi and Bombay. Therefore, I feel that these matters, small matters though they are, need looking into.

The number of post offices in the mofussils have very much increased, and that is for the good. There is a demand for more post offices, more letters are being written and it is all for the good. But in some of the post offices in the Santhal Parganas, it takes a lot of time. I do not know why from one post office to another sometimes it takes three to four days. I am told that letters which reach Godda or Pathergama in Santhal Parganas take three or four days to reach Mehgama. I think the matter needs looking into, because this department which has the credit of being so efficient should not allow anything to be done to lower the credit that it enjoys and has been enjoying so long. The matter, therefore, needs looking into.

There is one other small matter. The postal men who deliver letters in Calcutta now do not have any kind of uniform. Previously I had no occasion to find anybody without a uniform. Now most of the postmen who go and deliver letters in Calcutta are without uniforms. I want to know whether that rule has been abrogated and that is not being enforced.

Shri R. Barua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is good that this Ministry has now been made an independent unit and it is not dovetailed to the composite one. During the last few years, admittedly, this Ministry has made tremendous progress and advance, and it is a matter of satisfaction that we are having a speedy increase both in the number of post and telegraph offices and also other important means of communications. At the same time, we should also remember that the industrial progress of the country is directly connected with the communication system, with the post and telegraph system. Therefore, the rate of progress should not make us complacent because we have yet to make a long headway.

Again, we are faced with two important matters, namely, the aggressive China and the belligerent Pakistan. This has made our communication problem all the more important and compiicated. It is good that the Ministry has decided to establish the micro wave system in the Eastern Zone in order to avoid disruption of communication in times of need as well as in normal times. My hon. friend, Shri Himatsingka has just now pointed out that it is very difficult to get telephone calls from Calcutta to Assam and that is due to constant disruption of the communication line. I am happy that this micro wave system is going to be established. From the report I am able to understand that it will be commissioned sometime towards the end of 1964. But Sir, I do

[Shri R. Barua]

not think that this micro wave system alone will solve the problem. There are other things as well which have to be looked into in this vast region which keeps the different branches of our administration—the army and the civil service—in close contact. Therefore, other necessary improvements needed in this area should be gone into.

Then, coming to the question of construction of buildings, I am very much constrained to remark that a backlog in this aspect which was there has not yet been properly met. I am talking of construction of buildings to house the post offices and also the employees. It was, I think, in the Pay Commission's Report, if I remember aright, that at that time there were two lakh employees and for them there were houses only for 4 per cent. Now we have to the tune of about five lakh employees and the percentage of houses available I think is not very much. We have not advanced very much in that respect and we are still where we were. This causes a serious handicap to the employees, particularly to those in out-of-the-way places and cities where the cost of living and rent for accommodation have gone up very much. On the one hand the Government is not able to pay enough by way of dearness allowance and, on the other, the Government is also incapable of giving the employees proper housing accommodation. These two things cannot go together. In the Third Five Year Plan Rs. 3 crores have been provided for building purposes and till today only a fraction of it has been expended.

Previously, the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs used to say that they had no engineering wing of their own. Now they are having one. But my feeling is that although they are having an engineering wing, it is neither properly staffed nor conveniently positioned. Therefore, I do not think much ice would be cut by this new department.

Another proposal, as I have been able to find out from the report is, that they are going to entrust some of the minor works to the State P.W.D. But I am afraid the State P.W.D. have their hands already full, and I do not know how much they will be able to do in this diarchical way. I have my own doubts about it. Therefore, let not the Ministry be complacent about the new proposal of entrusting the building works to the State department. It is better that they give more attention to the question of developing their own organisation.

In the matter of construction of buildings and other things, from their own report, it is apparent that the physical targets have not been achieved, particularly in my State. In Appendix XXXIX information regarding physical targets, accomplishments etc., of important schemes and projects costing over Rs. 25 lakhs is given. In Assam circle the percentages are 7, 8 and 2. It is very meagre. It shows that absolutely nothing has been done in that respect.

With regard to giving recreational facilities and other things, the story is equally sad. In the statement showing circle-wise the progress made in the matter of provision of staff amenities like canteen etc., in respect of Assam it is said:

1959-60—Nil
1960-61—Nil
1961-62—Nil
1962-63—Nil
1963-64—Nil

It shows that in spite of the fact that money has been provided nothing is being done. I am stressing this point not because it concerns the State from which I come, but because there are many people of the postal department put in that strategic area far away from their own residences and for whom some recreational facilities and some incentives are absolutely necessary. There is not even a modicum of incentive, modicum of comfort

in the form of residence or facilities like canteens etc. Government cannot say that Parliament has not given the money. Though Parliament is granting money, in spite of that the Ministry have failed to give the minimum facilities. Therefore, I draw pointed attention of the Minister in charge to this aspect of the question, particularly because he holds full charge of this subject.

Even in the matter of building construction and extension of buildings nothing has been done. This shows that the construction department is not doing it or is incapable of doing anything. Now the head office of the Engineering Department is in Calcutta with one Chief Engineer. He has to run from Calcutta to Shillong, Shillong to Manipur and Manipur to Dibrugarh with the result that it is impossible to expect anything from him. On the one hand we say we have our own engineering department; on the other, we cannot show any performance of the work that is entrusted to it.

Coming to the efficiency of the department, I am very sorry to say that there is a decline in the standard of efficiency. May I also say that the standard of honesty, which once was the hall mark of this department even in the time of foreign rule, has gone down? From the report of the Ministry you will be pleased to find that there has been an increase in the defalcation of public money. Loss of money orders, insured covers and parcels has become a regular or usual feature. It is strange that even after the losses are detected and claims are made the postal department takes two or three years to settle the claim. Very often they create such a situation that the insurer or the man who sends the money order is forced to go to a court for realising his dues. It is very unfortunate. The department seems to be under the impression that all these people are cheats and the department has somehow to prevent them from cheating the department.

Recently I came across a case in which some ornaments were sent by insured parcel from somewhere in Rajasthan. It was tampered with on the way. A claim was made and it was found to be a genuine one. Yet the party had to go to a court of law because no settlement was made by the department. Now it has become more or less like its counterpart, the railway department, in which almost all the claims are met only after the party files a case in the court. If that happens in the postal department also, it will mean a very bad day for the country. I hope the Minister in charge of this subject will look into this matter and see that misbehaviour and abuses on the part of the postal department are stopped. Claims should be settled with the least possible delay. Because, if a poor man sends Rs. 200 or 300 in an insured cover to a distant relative of his and if it is lost in transit and thereafter he has to run from place to place and finally go to the court to recover his claim, you can just visualise what confidence he will have in the department. Therefore, the hon. Minister should see that such things do not just happen. In this connection, I will refer to Appendix V of the Audit Report which clearly discloses the increase in the volume of defalcations.

Coming to the increase in post offices, both in rural areas and towns, on the one hand I am very pleased to find that there has been vast expansion of postal facilities. On the other hand, no step has been taken to consolidate the position. Sub-offices are not proportionately raised to branch offices and branch offices to head offices, with the result that there is complete lack of control. Now the whole thing is moving in a vicious circle. On the one hand, officers in charge are being blamed and, on the other, they cannot afford to have proper control over the entire machinery. Therefore, this aspect has to be properly seen. We should not simply try to get cheap

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popularity by saying there are so many post offices here and so many there because of some temporary fad. What is more important is that the postal department keep proper control over all the branches and there should be the right type and number of sub-offices, branch offices and head offices to manage all these things.

On the question of efficiency, I would like to remind the Minister that the right type of training is not given to the employees. With the advancement of science, we are having different types of communications. We have co-axial system, microwave system and other systems. In order to handle all these things, proper training must be given to the lines men and operators. I am told these people do not get the training they need. Though the work is advancing at a higher speed, there is no proportionate facility for increased training with the result that inefficiency is growing. So, I am of the opinion that along with the advance in facilities there should be proper arrangements for giving necessary training. Then, whatever refresher courses there are nowadays they are very meagre and not up to the mark.

Lastly, coming to the stores purchase and control, the Audit Report discloses that on account of the absence of risk purchase clause the department is incurring heavy losses. I do not understand why the risk purchase clause could not be incorporated in all the agreements, although it was pointed out in November 1959 by Audit. I hope the Minister will look into it.

Finally, I will express my appreciation of the Indian Telephone Industries. They have done very good work and given a good account of themselves. I hope in years to come they will do much better. With these words, I conclude.

Shri A. S. Alva (Mangalore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I also congratulate the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs because they have done very good work and gained international reputation. Just to highlight the progress made by the department, I will just quote a few figures. In 1951 each post office covered an area of 90·6 sq. kilometres. It has been reduced to 36·26 sq. kilometres on 1st January, 1964. The number of post offices has increased from 22,116 on 15th August, 1947 to 90,239 on 1st January 1964. The average persons served by a post office has shrunk from 9,887 on 1st April 1951 to 4,867 on 1st January 1964. These are really very impressive figures. If we compare our country with other advanced countries, we are occupying the third place. In Australia one post office serves a population of 1,204. Next comes Canada with 1,542. The third is India with 4,867. So much so, we are ahead of Japan and United States.

An Hon. Member: That is all on paper.

Shri A. S. Alva: Anyhow, let us see how far we have progressed. As far as area is concerned, we are second. In Japan a post office covers 23·10 sq. kilometres and in our country 36.26 sq. kilometres.

15.00 hrs.

As far as the amenities are concerned, there is no use saying that there are other countries where they have got better amenities. We must also see that the poverty of the people and the riches of the people,—all those things—are correlated. But, at the same time, the figures which the Ministry has given in the Report will go to show that these are really impressive figures in spite of our poverty and we have advanced a lot.

As far as the Third Five Year Plan is concerned, we have programmed to open 23,000 post offices out of which we have already opened 12,966 where

emphasis has been laid on rural post offices. Out of 12,966 post offices already opened 905 are urban post offices and 12,061 are rural post offices.

We have also programmed for raising the status of the extra-departmental and sub-post offices numbering 2,500 of which we have already upgraded 1,290. Then, there is another scheme of opening 200 post offices in very backward areas; so much so that the Government is incurring a loss of Rs. 2,500 on each post office. Of these they have already opened 132 up to the 31st December, 1963. Thereafter another 25 post offices were opened.

As regards the programme of the Postal Department to start the Panchayat Postal Scheme under which letters etc. are delivered by the several Panchayats, that also they are experimenting. I have just quoted these figures to show that our Postal Department has really done very good work and they have progressed very much.

But, at the same time, as my hon. friend just now said, we should not be complacent in these matters because things are moving very fast. The Posts and Telegraphs Department, as a matter of fact, must cope with the present day conditions and as such they must streamline their own departments.

In this connection mention has been made of the Indian Telephone Industry where our requirements are being manufactured. But the progress made does not seem to be up to the mark. In 1962-63—I am quoting from the Report of the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore—the target of telephones was 1,32,000 and for 1963-64 it was expected to be 1,70,000 out of which up to the 30th November 1963 the figure is only 93,280. Similarly, for the small exchange lines the target for 1963-64 was 40,640 of which we have achieved only 20,544 up to the 30th November, 1963. So, there is a lot of work to be done in this direction also. I am sure, the Ministry will try its best to catch up with it and achieve the target.

Then, the Department could usefully extend the facilities of telephone to the villages where communication is difficult. As a matter of fact, as far as telephones are concerned, they have also extended their activities and I will not bother the House with the figures because they are really very impressive. They have really done very good work. But at the same time there was some difficulty. This also we have to put up with because on account of the operations in Goa and the emergency due to the invasion, it was not possible to extend telephone and postal facilities to the villages and rural areas. I believe, it was a question of the availability of copper wires and now that they are available, the Department must see that in the rural areas public call offices are opened as far as possible. I am particularly referring to the coastal areas of Mysore State and in other States also probably where communications are very difficult during the monsoon for about three or four months in a year. People will be really very much handicapped if they do not get any means of communication and if they cannot communicate from one place to another place. I am sure, the Department will give top priority to this and will see that those areas are also covered.

Then one other aspect has also been stressed. I will also say that as far as the building programme is concerned we are really lagging behind. Some of the post offices are actually housed in rented buildings and several complaints have been received from the landlords of those buildings to the effect that the rents are not paid properly and that the Department insists on a complicated procedure to be gone through before they get their rental. Some people even threaten the Department with suits and all those things. I am sure, the authorities will see that the parties will not be driven to filing suit because,

[Shri A. S. Alva]

after all, if suits are filed, it is only the Department and the Government that will suffer but the landlords will be getting not only their rent but also their costs. These things are to be avoided.

Then, Government must also speed up the programme. I am glad to note that they have simplified the procedure and have also entrusted the State PWDs with certain other works. They have also modified and taken away the rigidity as far as the buildings and all those things are concerned. Of course, proper care has to be taken to see that the essential things are not over-looked. For this purpose it is necessary that they should go ahead. I know of instances in some places where Head Post Offices have been sanctioned but the building has not come up so far either due to acquisition proceedings or due to other things. These things must be looked into and it should be seen that there is no complaint on this ground.

As far as the telephones are concerned, I also join in the complaint that we do not get connections to distant places. Sometimes, specially when we ring up Bangalore or some other place, we are told that the line is out of order and really we find it difficult to communicate. I do not know why this kind of a thing should occur. The Department should see that this also is remedied.

Then, one other thing that I have to submit is as regards the priorities in respect of giving telephone connections. I had raised this point in the Consultative Committee also. Even thereafter I have been receiving a number of complaints. There are two categories, namely, essential and non-essential and they have got their own code words and all those things. There are two sets in respect to this. Those people for whom it is ordered emergently, they are put in one class and the ordinary people are put in the other class. But as far as these two sets are concerned, I request that the hon. Minister should personally look into the matter and direct all the heads of departments to see that people get their connections in the order of priority. Sometimes there are some committees and similar bodies. This gives rise to lot of complaints of favouritism or that an influential man who could just talk to the PMG or some other person is favoured with it. There should not be any room for complaints of this type. I am sure, the Government will look into this matter.

Then, I will submit one word as far as the wireless stations are concerned. In my own place, Mangalore, they have started both the receiving and transmitting stations. As far as I could gather—whenever I used to go there I used to ask them about this—though the land has been acquired, the building either of the transmitting or of the receiving station has not come up. I do not know for what reason. Since this is also an important thing, I am sure the Department will look into it, and see that the position is remedied.

Then, I would say a word about the telephone facilities which are being given. At the beginning of the Third Plan we had only 4,65,000 connections, and by the end of 1963-64 it is expected that 6,60,000 connections will be given. Steps are also being taken to automatise all those telephones, and I am sure that the Department will speed up this work.

Another noteworthy feature of the Department is the introduction of the system of direct dialling between different places. That work is also going on at a brisk pace, and I hope that Government will see that all the headquarters of the States will be connected sooner than expected.

I would not like to say anything more except that I congratulate the

Department on the good work that they have done, and I am sure that they will maintain their reputation. The credit also goes to the officers and men and all others also who are in the lowest rung who are doing their work very well.

With these words, I support the Demands of this Department.

श्री याज्ञिक (अहमदाबाद) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, डाक और तार मंत्रालय ने कई बातों में जो प्रगति की है उस के लिये मैं उसे बधाई देना चाहता हूं । इस के साथ साथ मुझे कुछ सूचना भी करनी है और कुछ शिकायत भी करनी है । पहली सूचना तो यह है कि डाक और तार का बोर्ड बनाया गया है मगर उस को स्वायत्त नहीं बनाया गया है । यह बात ठीक है कि इस बार हमारे सामने इस मंत्रालय की तरफ से मांगें रक्खी गई हैं, अलग रिपोर्ट भी रक्खी गई है, मगर जैसा मेरे कई साथियों ने कहा, मैं भी चाहता हूं कि यह मंत्रालय ज्यादा स्वायत्त बने । बजट की मर्यादा में खर्च करने की स्वतन्त्रता उस को मिली जिस के लिये बार बार उस को वित्त मंत्रालय से सम्मत्ति लेने की जरूरत नहीं है ।

सब से बड़ा सवाल जो हमारे सामने है वह इस मंत्रालय के कर्मचारियों के बारे में है । प्रगति तो बहुत हुई । ज्यादा कागज, ज्यादा डाक और ज्यादा टेलीफोन चलते हैं, आमदनी भी करीब करीब ८७ करोड़ रु० से बढ़ कर ९७ करोड़ रु० हो गई है, मगर जिन कर्मचारियों के श्रम की वजह से यह सब कार्यवाही होती है उन के लिये क्या किया गया है इस का कोई जिक्र रिपोर्ट में नहीं किया गया है । कल्याण निधि है, उस में से स्पोर्ट्स् के लिये कुछ इन्तजाम होता है, ठीक है । मगर आप तो जानते हैं कि कर्मचारियों की यूनियन है, उन का फैडरेशन है । कर्मचारियों की यूनियन और फैडरेशन की तरफ से क्या शिकायतें रक्खी जाती हैं, क्या मांगें रक्खी जाती हैं, उन का भी कोई जिक्र रिपोर्ट में नहीं है । यह सब होता है मंत्रालय में जो चार लाख कर्मचारी हैं उनके सहयोग से । उन के लिये यह मंत्रालय क्या सोचता है, इस के बारे में भी रिपोर्ट में कोई जिक्र नहीं है । मेरी सूचना यह है कि जो सालाना रिपोर्ट बनाई जाये उस में एक खास प्रकरण या चैप्टर अलग से रक्खा जाये जिस में इस बात का पूरा जिक्र किया जाये कि उन कर्मचारियों के बारे में मंत्रालय क्या सोचता है, उन को क्या सुविधा देता है और उन के मंहगाई भत्ते में क्या बढ़ोतरी करता है ।

हम जानते हैं कि कर्मचारियों को मंहगाई भत्ता मिला दो रुपया, पांच रुपया, दस रुपया । यह हंसने की बात मालूम होती है इस मंहगाई के जमाने में । हमारे कई भाइयों ने जिक्र किया है कि यह मंहगाई भत्ता मिलता है लेकिन जब वह मिलता है तो सन् १९६५ से मिलता है । जब मंहगाई का अंक १२५ हुआ तब उस के ऊपर यह दो रुपया, पांच रुपया या दस रुपया मंहगाई भत्ता निश्चित किया गया है । लेकिन यह भी उन को १-११-६१ से नहीं मिलता है, यह बड़ी शिकायत की बात है । साथ ही सब से बड़ी बात यह है कि मंहगाई भत्ते की गिनती गलत है । महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में सूती मिलों के कर्मचारियों की मंहगाई की गिनती के लिये जो कमेटी बनाई गई थी उस ने साफ इस बात को बतलाया है । मैं इस चीज को मानता हूं कि वेतन पंच जो मुकरर हुए थे, उनको अलग हटा देना चाहिये । मैं अपने अनुभव से साफ देखता हूं कि मंहगाई २५ से ४० प्रतिशत बढ़ गई है । यह सोचने की बात है कि अहमदाबाद और बम्बई में सूती मिल के कर्मचारियों को तो १५ रु० मिले, १० रु० मिले ज्यादा मंहगाई भत्ते के रूप में और जो वहां के डाक और तार के कर्मचारी हैं उन को २ रु०, ५ रु० मिले । इस को देखते हुए मेरे दिल में कोई शुबहा नहीं है कि कर्मचारियों के दिल में बड़ा असंतोष होता है । थोड़े दिन पहले कर्मचारियों ने "डिमान्ड्स डे" मनाया था, कई जगहों पर

[श्री याज्ञिक]

काली पट्टी लगाई जाती है, जलूस निकाले जाते हैं। यह असन्तोष दिन पर दिन बढ़ता जाता है। मैं साफ कहना चाहता हूं कि डाक और तार के कर्मचारियों के, सब केन्द्रीय और राज्यों के कर्मचारियों के लिये, सारे देश के कर्मचारियों के लिये, कामगरों के लिये जरूरी है कि इस मंहगाई के जमाने में कम से कम २५ रुपया ज्यादा मंहगाई भत्ता दिया जाये।

तीसरी बात यह है कि डाक और तार विभाग में काम करने वाले जो कर्मचारी हैं उन के घरों में ज्यादा सुविधा होनी चाहिये। बड़ी तकलीफ की बात यह है कि सन् १९६२-६३ में २ करोड़ २९ लाख रुपया खर्च किया गया था डाक और तारघरों और कर्मचारियों के मकानों के लिये लेकिन जब अब की बजट नया बनाया गया है उस में सन् १९६४-६५ के लिये इस सम्बन्ध में केवल १ करोड़ ६४ लाख रु० रक्खा गया है। यानी इस में और कमी कर दी गई। इस में बढ़ोतरी नहीं हुई है। आज कल सब जगहों पर मकानों की जो हालत है वह बहुत बुरी है, यह हम सब लोग जानते हैं। पिछले साल जो इस मंत्रालय के मंत्री थे उन्हों ने साफ बतलाया था कि उन के दिल में इन मकानों से बहुत असन्तोष है। यह मकान किस तरह के हैं मैं इस की मिसाल आप को दूं। लुधियाना डाकघर सन् १८३२ में बनाया गया था किसी राजवंशी के लिये। उस का छप्पर ऐसा है कि पता नहीं वह कब नीचे गिर पड़ेगा। कर्मचारियों की संख्या बढ़ गई, वहां पर उन के हिलने डुलने के लिये जगह नहीं है। कर्मचारी बहुत परेशान होते हैं। और उसके नजदीक में, उसी कम्पाउण्ड में तार और टेलीफोन के लिए नया मकान बनाया है मगर डाकखाने के लिए नया मकान लुधियाना में नहीं बनाया गया है।

15.21 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

तूतीकोरन में सौ साल पुराना मकान है। वहां भी हलन चलन की काफी जगह नहीं है। छपरा उसका कब गिर जाएगा इसका पता नहीं। सौ आदमी काम करते हैं।

भाव नगर का डाकघर मैंने खुद देखा है। मुझे वह जेलखाना सा मालूम हुआ, अगर उस को ब्लैक होल भी कहा जाए तो भी बुरा नहीं होगा। पहले से चार गुने ज्यादा कर्मचारी वहां काम करते हैं। उस इमारत में हवा और प्रकाश का ठीक इन्तिजाम नहीं है। नया मकान वहां बनाने का प्रस्ताव चल रहा है, लेकिन अभी तक इसका कोई फैसला नहीं हुआ है।

मद्रास में जमीन खरीदी गयी है अगर वहां मकान नहीं बना है।

त्रिवेंड्रम का टेलीफोन का जो हिसाबी कार्यालय है उसमें बहुत बुरी हालत है। पुराना बंगला है, छपरा नीचा है, हवा नहीं है। पंप के दिनों में कोई पंखा नहीं रखा जाता है। और जब कर्मचारियों ने शिकायत की तो कहा गया कि भाई खजूरी के पत्ते का पंखा चलाओ। इसके विरोध में वहां के कर्मचारी खजूरी के पत्ते का पंखा लेकर बाहर में फिरते रहे और लोगों का ध्यान आकर्षित किया।

ऐसी हालत हो तो आप देख सकते हो कि कर्मचारी ठीक से काम नहीं कर सकते। उनके मकानों की हालत और भी बुरी है। वेतन पंच ने बताया था कि रेलवे के कर्मचारियों के लिए ३६ फी सदी कर्मचारियों के लिए मकान बनाए गए हैं। दूसरे सब केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों को मिला कर सबके लिए २१ प्रतिशत के लिए मकान बनाए गए हैं। मगर डाक और तार के केवल चार प्रतिशत कर्मचारियों के लिए मकान बनाए गए हैं। यह बड़े

शर्म की बात है, इसमें तेजी से काम क्यों नहीं किया जाता । सारी तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस काम के लिए तीन करोड़ रुपया रखा गया था । मैं बड़े अदब से कहना चाहता हूं कि कि तीन करोड़ से कुछ नहीं होगा । केन्द्र के जो तमाम मन्त्रालय हैं उनमें शायद डाक और तार के मन्त्रालय के मकान की हालत सब से बुरी है । इस मन्त्रालय के कर्मचारियों के रहने की कोई सुविधा नहीं है । इसके लिए मन्त्रालय को तेजी से कदम उठाना चाहिए और ज्यादा ध्यान इस ओर देना चाहिए । दस बीस करोड़ का चार पांच साल का प्रोग्राम रखना चाहिए । जमीन लेना चाहें तो मिल सकती है । तार घर के लिए मिलती है, टेलीफोन घर के लिए मिलती है । इस मन्त्रालय में जो बड़े लाट साहब हैं, जिनके पास सत्ता है, वे लोग जब चाहते हैं तो मकान बनाते हैं, चाहते हैं तो फौरन जमीन खरीद लेते हैं, चाहते हैं तो किसी तरह जमीन एक्वायर कर लेते हैं । मेरे दिल में एक शक है । मन्त्री जी को तो शायद यह सब जानकारी नहीं होगी । मेरे दिल में शक है कि जो इस मन्त्रालय में बड़े बड़े अधिकारी हैं, सत्ताधीश हैं उनका इस बारे में दुर्लक्ष्य है । वे समझते हैं कि कर्मचारियों से काम ज्यादा लेते जाओ, उनका ओवर टाइम न दो, उनको ज्यादा वेतन भी देने की जरूरत नहीं है, उनका महंगाई भत्ता भी ज्यादा न बढ़ाओ, उनका मकान भी वैसा ही रहने दो, मगर उनसे काम ज्यादा लेते जाओ । यह हालत तो ठीक नहीं है । आज हमारे देश में लोकशाही है । मैं बहुत अदब से कहना चाहता हूं कि ये जो बड़े बड़े अफसर लोग हैं उनके भी दिमाग की जरा मरम्मत करनी चाहिए । उनको जरा समझना चाहिए कि भारत आजाद है । मैं तो चाहता हूं . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वैसे तो आप बहुत अच्छी हिन्दी बोल रहे हैं, मैं आपकी तारीफ करता हूं, लेकिन दिमाग की मरम्मत—ये लफ्ज हाउस के लिए अच्छे नहीं हैं ।

श्री याज्ञिक : हमारे कई कर्मचारियों का टैस्ट लिया जाता है । तो मैं सुझाव रखता हूं कि जो बड़े अधिकारी हैं उनके भी दिमाग का कुछ टेस्ट करना चाहिए । बड़े अफसर परीक्षा तो पास करते हैं, ठीक है, लेकिन वे ज्यादातर रूढ़िवादी होते हैं, वे ज्यादातर बड़े बड़े लोगों में रहते हैं । इसलिए उनको पता नहीं रहता कि गरीब कुचले हुए कर्मचारियों की हालत क्या है, वे कैसे काम करते हैं और कैसे मकानों में रहते हैं । यह हमारी लोकशाही के लिए बड़े शर्म की बात है । मेरा सुझाव है कि डाक और तार घर के मकानों के लिए बड़ी तेजी से कदम उठाया जाना चाहिए ।

अब मैं आर० एम० एस० के कर्मचारियों के लिए दो शब्द कहना चाहता हूं । यह एक अजीब बात है कि जो आर० एम० एस० के सारटर हैं उनके लिए सालाना टैस्ट रखा गया है । केन्द्रीय मन्त्रालय में तो हजारों लाखों कर्मचारी हैं, लेकिन ये जो आर० एम० एस० के सारटर हैं इनके लिए सालाना टैस्ट क्यों रखा जाता है यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता । और खास बात तो यह है कि वे जब इस टैस्ट में पास हो जाते हैं तभी उनको बढ़ोत्तरी मिलती है नहीं तो नहीं मिलती । उनको सालाना बढ़ोतरी तब मिलती है जब वे परीक्षा में पास हो जाते हैं । यह बड़ी शिकायत की बात है । बड़ी तकलीफ की बात है । कई दूसरे कर्मचारी हैं उनका कोई पांच साल में या दस साल में टैस्ट होना है, मगर ये जो आर० एम० एस० के सारटर हैं उन्होंने क्या गुनाह किया है । क्या वे कोई और किस्म के आदमी हैं, या और किस्म के कर्मचारी हैं कि उनके लिए सालाना टैस्ट रखा गया है । यह कोई अक्ल की बात नहीं मालूम होती है । तो मैं बड़े अदब से मन्त्री जी को कहना चाहता हूं कि यह जो सालाना टैस्ट है आर० एम० एस० के कर्मचारियों के लिए इसे फौरन हटा दिया जाए ।

इसी प्रकार एक बात और मैं आर० एम० एस० के कर्मचारियों के बारे में कहना

[श्री याज्ञिक]

चाहता हूं । जब ये लोग ३६ घंटे के लिए सरकारी काम पर बाहर जाते हैं तो इनको २ रुपया आउट स्टेशन एलाउंस दिया जाता है, रेलवे का ड्राइवर जब इतने समय के लिए बाहर काम पर जाता है तो उसको १८ रुपये दिये जाते हैं और टी० टी० इंस्पेक्टर को, जो कि आर० एम० एस० के सारटर के कक्षा का कर्मचारी है, साढ़े सात रुपया दिया जाता है । लेकिन यह आर० एम० एस० का कर्मचारी, जो कि सारी रात काम करता है, इसको दो रुपया दिया जाता है । मेरा कहना है कि अगर आप इसको ड्राइवर की तरह १८ रुपया न दो तो कम से कम ६ या ७ रुपया तो इसे मिलना ही चाहिए । यह ३६ घंटे बाहर रहता है, और खाने पीने में, चाय में और इधर उधर फिरने में इसका काफी खर्चा हो जाता है । यह देखते हुए मैं अदब से कहना चाहता हूं मंत्री जी से कि इस बारे में सोचना चाहिए और कम से कम इन कर्मचारियों को साढ़े सात रुपये का भत्ता देना चाहिए ।

आखिर में मैं एक बात और कह देना चाहता हूं । यह लोकशाही का जमाना है और आपने यूनियन्स को मान्यता दी है । हिन्दुस्तान भर में काफी यूनियन्स हैं, सरकिल में भी यूनियन्स हैं और उनका फेडेरेशन भी है । उसके साथ सलाह मशविरा भी होता रहता है । सब सरकिलों में यूनियन्स के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ सलाह मशविरा करने की रीति रस्म है । आज मंत्रालय तथा यूनियन्स के बीच में बहुत अच्छा सम्बन्ध होना चाहिए । यह चीज लोकशाही के लिए और मंत्रालय के काम की सफलता के लिए जरूरी है । इसलिए मैं इसके लिए खास विनती करता हूं कि मंत्री जी इस ओर देखें और जो मंत्रालय के बारे में रिपोर्ट अगले साल में रखी जाये उसमें यह यूनियन और फेडेरेशन के साथ कैसे समझौता होता है, उसकी क्या फरियाद होती है और उसका हल निकाल होता है इसके बारे में उसमें काफी तौर से प्रकाश डाला जाय ।

Shri Mahesh Dutta Misra (Khandwa): While I rise to support the Demands of the P &. T Department, I wish to offer my compliments to the Government and the Prime Minister for separating this Department from the composite Ministry of Transport and Communications. Now, I think there would be better opportunity for separate discussion of this Department whenever it is raised here in this House, but, I would like to say that, like the Railway Board, as Members have demanded, this Department should also enjoy more autonomy not only in matters of finance, but in other spheres as well.

While raising this demand for autonomy, I do not wish to say that it should be completely separated, because it is one of those departments which runs across the country, or, physiologically speaking, it forms the nervous or artery system of this country, and so it cannot be separated in that sense, but I agree with Members that if there is more autonomy given to this Department, it might function more efficiently and more ably.

The problem raised by several Members here is that the Department is not working efficiently, or that there is not enough efficiency in this Department because certain conditions have not been fulfilled. I think it is a matter of serious concern when we find that people complain about telegrams being received after the letter has reached the destination, or trunk calls not being attended to or not being given even after five, six, seven or eight hours, or some cases of defalcation etc. Of course, there are various reasons for this kind of inefficiency or lack of efficiency, and they must be looked into, and I think a high level enquiry is needed to go into the whole problem as to how

efficiency could be increased in this Department.

But there are certain questions which need the attention of the people as well. They have also not been sympathetically looking at this problem. Whether it is Parliament or the people or public opinion, the workers of this Department are generally neglected.

I wish to refer to the whole question in a different context. While admitting that there is a lot of corruption and dishonesty in this country,—I think every department has its share in this prevalent corruption, I do not know the magnitude if it—I must say that this Department of Posts and Telegraphs is by far the most honest department. Of course, there are certain complaints against certain workers, but this Department, I think, is running most efficiently and most honestly in this country as compared to others. So, when we talk of efficiency or honesty in the general context, of our national conditions, we should not be unfair to the Posts and Telegraphs Department only.

A demand has been made by various Members, and since it touches my own home State, I would like to repeat it, that the Madhya Pradesh Circle must be created as early as possible. If it is not possible to lodge the offices of the Madhya Pradesh Circle at Bhopal, because it would take time to construct the buildings temporary arrangements could be made by locating the office at Nagpur and separating it from the Central Circle. I think the technical difficulty should be overcome by some such *via media*, and I think it could be done.

Then, Sir, many suggestions have been made by hon. friends for increasing efficiency. I would like to read from the Pay Commission's Report of 1959. The following observations were made by them:

> "Recruitment policy and methods, training, system of placements and supervision, equipment including the use of machinery where necessary, methods and organisation of work, and even the structure of a Department and the nature of the machinery of Government, may all contribute in varying degrees to the state of efficiency."

Therefore, I want to look at this problem from a wider angle. The Pay Commission made many recommendations, but I do not know what action has been taken, except that a selection board has been established for certain cadres.

Some Members complained about training arrangements. I think there is lack of training arrangements also. They are not sufficient, and certain hands have to work on lines for which they are not fully equipped.

Then, there has been mention about refresher courses. I think that should be done as early as possible.

Because of our democratic set-up there has been a vast increase in the number of post offices, telephone lines, telephone exchanges and telegraph offices, and even now we want all kinds of improvements. A 24-hour service has been introduced in some places, but one must admit that the arrangements that have been made are thoroughly inadequate. I have also seen some of these offices while visiting some cities in the country as Chairman of the NFPTE. I was told workers are put to a lot of inconvenience. Sometimes they live five or six miles away from their office, and they have to come for night duty, and they do not find any arrangement for sleeping etc. I do not wish to enumerate all these difficulties, but I would like to say that the arrangements are in many cases thoroughly inadequate.

The Pay Commission also suggested that there should be some incentive

[Shri Mahesh Dutta Misra]

given to the workers, and they wanted incentive awards to be given. I do not know what action has been taken, but it is reported that whatever was suggested by the Commission has not been done in the manner suggested by them. So, I think the Ministry should look into the matter about the complaints of the workers.

There was also a suggestion about a task force, and in order to improve efficiency of the P. & T. workers, almost all the workers' unions suggested that efficiency councils should be established. The whole country talks about the inefficiency of the Department, and the workers of the Department also want to do something. But there are certain things that the Government must do, and certain things must be attended to by the workers themselves. So, they have suggested that there should be efficiency councils, which could look into the details of particular departments, and find out where the fault lies.

Looking to the situation in an overall manner, I would like to suggest that as early as possible, a high level enquiry should be set up so that it could take the whole picture in a general way and go into the details as to how efficiency could be improved. But, as I said, and as the Pay Commission has also said, emphasis has got to be laid on the service conditions. For instance, workers wanted dearness allowance to be linked with the cost of living, but nothing has been done so far. Only Rs. 2 have been given to the workers, who have to buy wheat and other necessities of life, and we can understand in these hard days how they can manage by getting only Rs. 2 more in their pay.

The Budget shows that there is a surplus, so far as the P & T. Department is concerned, of about Rs. 10 crores. I do not understand why more development plans cannot be undertaken when there is such a surplus. Like the railways, we are also contributing a large sum of the general revenues. After deducting so many things, there is a surplus shown in the 1964-65 Budget of Rs. 3·67 crores. This net surplus has been diverted towards two items: development fund and revenue reserves. Everybody knows that P & T. is not a business concern, although it is run as in business like manner. But one can say that there will not be wide fluctuations in the supply and demand position. Besides, we are everyday expanding the department and are getting more and more revenue every year. Therefore, I do not think there is any necessity of diverting so much amount to go into the reserves; a nominal sum could be diverted and all the rest could be diverted towards the development fund. We have so many outstanding demands of the workers that have to be met and I would like to cite only two demands totalling Rs. 40 lakhs.

For instance, the workers have been demanding for the last few years that more money should be given to the lower selection grade workers; roughly it comes to Rs. 15 lakhs. They want a special pay for the cashiers. Cashier of every other department have been given more allowance and more pay according to the recommendations of the Pay Commission. But in the P&T department set-up the special pay for the cashiers has not been implemented. That will come to about Rs. 25 lakhs. If this recommendation is implemented, there will be more efficiency and general satisfaction in the whole department. I request the hon. Minister to look into this matter. Once these things are voted upon, the Finance Department would raise objections and would not allow anything to be done to the workers and so, I would again appeal to the Minister that he must look into

the whole question of diversion of the surpluses.

Nobody would object to there being more telegraph offices and new post offices. But all this must be stabilised in the sense that all this must be done in a manner that there is no extra load on the workers. We should not expect them to go on working more and more without giving them proper staff, equipment, facilities; the opening of new offices or increasing the existing services such as 24 hours service—I do not want to go into details—creates additional workload for the workers which should be looked into. From the complaints that come to me from the workers, I can very well say that there is no proportion between the demands of the people, the anxiety of the department to satisfy that demand and the improvement in the conditions of service.

With these words, I support the demands and hope that these matters will be dealt with properly.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पोस्ट्स एंड टेलीग्राफ्स डिपार्टमेंट की मांगों पर बोलते हुए मुझे ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि इस सम्बन्ध में जितने पैसे की व्यवस्था की जाती है, उतना पैसा खर्च नहीं होता है और जो खर्च किया जाता है, उसकी परवाह नहीं की जाती है, क्योंकि इस विभाग में गोलमाल ज्यादा होते हैं ।

इस विभाग की दो तीन फैक्टरियां या वर्कशाप हैं । यहां से जो माल रिजेक्ट हो कर उनमें जाता है, वहां पर वह रद्दी की टोकरी में डाल दिया जाता है और उसकी बिल्कुल परवाह नहीं की जाती है । इस विभाग में आजकल चोरियां काफी होने लग गई हैं, जिनसे इसको काफी नुकसान उठाना पड़ा है । मैं कुछ वर्कशाप्स के बारे में बताना चाहता हूं कि उनमें कितना गोलमाल हुआ है । जितने पैसे का गोलमाल हुआ है, अगर वही पैसा सही तौर पर से इस्तेमाल किया जाता, तो शायद इस देश के गांवों में टेलीफोन लगाने में कुछ सफलता मिल जाती ।

१९६२-६३ तक हमारे गांवों में १,३७,३८२ टेलीफोन लगाए गए । हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में कुल गांव हैं ४५ लाख । अगर राजस्थान की तरह सारे देश में ग्राम-पंचायतें स्थापित कर दी जायें, तो तकरीबन सात, साढ़े सात लाख ग्राम पंचायतें हो जायेंगी । मैं समझता हूं कि ग्राम-पंचायतों के स्थान पर टेलीफोन होना बहुत जरूरी है । लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में अभी तक जो प्रगति हुई है—अर्थात् दस बारह सालों में एक लाख से कुछ ऊपर टेलीफोन लगाए गए हैं—, उसको देखते हुए तो यह जन्म भर की मानोपली हो जायेगी, जन्म भर यह काम होता रहेगा । अगर हम प्रगति की इस रफ्तार से देश का उद्धार करना चाहें और देश में समानता लाना चाहें, तो यह कभी भी संभव नहीं है । इसलिए हमको प्रोग्रेस की गति बढ़ानी पड़ेगी । तब जाकर हमारे गांवों में टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था हो सकेगी ।

जहां तक दिल्ली का सम्बन्ध है, दरख्वास्तों के पुलन्दे के पुलन्दे पेंडिंग पड़े हुए हैं और लोगों को यह बताने वाला कोई भी नहीं मिलता है कि उनको फलां टाइम पर कनेक्शन मिल जायेगा । दिल्ली में ओ० वाई० टी० की योजना बिल्कुल असफल हुई है । लोगों ने दो दो हजार रुपये जमा करा दिये हैं और वे कतार बना कर खड़े रहते हैं, लेकिन उनकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती है और कोई आफिसर यह भी नहीं कहता है कि क्या बात है, किस तरह आये हो ।

कहा जाता है कि विभाग के पास सामान नहीं है । अगर गवर्नमेंट सामान मंगाने में या उसको बनाने में फेल हुई है, तो वह प्राइवेट कम्पनियों से सामान ले और जिन लोगोंसे उसने दो दो हजार रुपये ले रक्खे हैं, कम से कम

[श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा]

उनको तो टेलीफोन दे दिया जाये । अगर यह भी संभव न हो, तो एक कारपोरेशन बना कर उसको यह काम सौंप दिया जाये, या किसी को ठेका दे दिया जाये कि वह गांवों में टेलीफोन लगाने की व्यवस्था करे । सरकार को इसलिये नहीं मालूम पड़ता है, क्योंकि टेलीफोन से जो पैसा आता है, वह रेवेन्यू में जमा हो जाता है और उसको यह भी पता नहीं होता है कि कितनी इनकम हुई है और कितना खर्च करना है । अगर सरकार के अपने जिम्मे यह काम हो, तो उसको पता लगे कि कितना रुपया आया है और कितना खर्च करना है । वह पैसा तो डायरेक्ट चला जाता है और सरकार को पता ही नहीं है । मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर सरकार से इस बारे में कोई इन्तजाम नहीं हो सकता है, तो वह या तो कोई कन्ज्यूमर्ज सोसायटी बना कर या ऐसी कोई और व्यवस्था करके टेलीफोन के सामान का निर्माण करे । इसके बगैर देश में समानता आना बहुत मुश्किल है ।

जो रुपया निर्माण कार्यों में खर्च किया जाता है, उसकी देखभाल होना बहुत जरूरी है, क्योंकि जो देश की सम्पत्ति है, उसके एक एक पैसे का सदुपयोग करना, खास तौर से इस समय बहुत जरूरी है । मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूं कि कितना नुकसान किस किस कम्पनी और किस किस मद में हुआ है ।

जहां तक मद्रास के आंकड़ों का सम्बंध है, वहां पर १९६२ में चोरी के ५५८२ केसिज हुए, जिन में १३,२९,००३ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ । यह चोरी तो किसी ने की और नुकसान पोस्ट्स एंड टेलिग्राफ्स डिपार्टमेंट का हुआ ।

चोरी और एक्सिडेंट्स से १२.५१ लाख रुपये का नुकसान हुआ । १९५५ से १९६३ तक ३.१ लाख रुपये का माल रिपेयर के लिये मद्रास वर्कशाप को भेजा गया, लेकिन आज तक उसकी रिपेयर नहीं हुई । मद्रास में जो टेलीफ़ोन रिपेयर वर्कशाप खुला हुआ है, वह सिर्फ़ मद्रास टेलीफ़ोन डिस्ट्रिक्ट के सामान की मरम्मत करता है लेकिन यहां से जो सामान रिपेयर के लिये भेजा जाता है उसकी तरफ वह कोई ध्यान नहीं देता है । वह सामान इकट्ठा होते होते एक ढेर हो गया है, लेकिन उसकी कोई परवाह नहीं की जाती है । अगर वह वर्कशाप उसकी परवाह नहीं करता है, तो विभाग को किसी प्राइवेट कम्पनी के द्वारा उसकी मरम्मत करानी चाहिये । क्या वजह है कि वह मद्रास स्टेट के माल की मरम्मत का काम तो हाथ में ले लेकिन दूसरों का काम वह न करे । उसके साथ सख्ती होनी चाहिये । जो राष्ट्र की सम्पत्ति है, वह रद्दी की टोकरी में नहीं फेंकी जानी चाहिये ।

अब मैं अलीपुर की वर्कशाप की बात कहता हूं । वहां पर १.६९ लाख का माल १९६१, १९६२ और १९६३ तक रिपेयर के लिए भेजा गया था । वह माल आज तक पड़ा हुआ है, कोई परवाह ही नहीं करता है । अगर वे उसकी रिपेयर करना चाहें तो कर सकते हैं । वहां का जो प्रोडक्शन है वह बहुत अधिक है, इसलिए उसकी वे परवाह ही नहीं करते हैं । यही वजह है कि यह सारा माल वैसा का वैसा पड़ा हुआ है, रिपेयर ही नहीं हुआ है । यहां से लिया जाता है लेकिन फिर भी कोई परवाह नहीं करता है । यह माल इस तरह से पड़ा नहीं रहना चाहिये और इस ओर भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये ।

दिल्ली वर्कशाप के बारे में अब मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूं । पिछले सालों की ही बात मैं आपको बताता हूं । १९६१ तक १३.६ लाख का स्टोर भेजा गया था रिपेयर के लिये । उसमें से ११.५ लाख के माल के बारे में उन्होंने कह दिया कि यह बिल्कुल रद्दी है, इसको हम बिल्कुल कंडेम समझते

हैं और उसको फेंक दिया । बाकी ९६ हजार का माल उन्होंने रिपेयर के लिए लिया । १९६३ तक कुछ की रिपेयर की गई और ३५,००० रुपये का माल अभी भी बाकी पड़ा हुआ है ।

अब मैं जबलपुर स्टोर की बात करता हूं । आपने १५.५८ लाख रुपये का माल जबलपुर वर्कशाप में भेजा १९६३ मार्च तक ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने कोई माल वहां नहीं भेजा है ।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : रिपेयर के लिए भेजा है, यह मैं बता रहा हूं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने नहीं भेजा है ।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : सरकार से मेरा मतलब है । मंत्रिमंडल बैठा हुआ है, उसकी जिम्मेदारी है

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्रिमंडल को न कहें जो कहना है मुझे कहें ।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : आपके द्वारा कहा जा रहा है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो मेरे द्वारा कहा जाता है, वह सीधा चला जाता है ।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : कोई भी ऐसी बात हो, चारों तरफ नजर कर....

अध्यक्ष महोदय नजर नहीं करनी चाहिये ।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : आपके द्वारा कहा जा रहा है ।

इस में से ७८ परसेंट ऐसा माल बताया जाता है जो मरम्मत के काबिल नहीं । इस माल के बारे में एक कमेटी बना कर आप विचार कर रहे हैं कि वह माल बनने लायक है या नहीं । उस कमेटी ने अभी तक रिपोर्ट नहीं दी है कि यह माल कंडेम कर दिया जाए या इसकी मरम्मत हो सकती हैं । कमेटी को चाहिये कि वह जल्दी से जल्दी रिपोर्ट दे क्योंकि हमारे यहां टेलीफोंज की बहुत कमी है ।

अब मैं बम्बई की वर्कशाप की बात कहता हूं । बम्बई टेलीफोन वर्कशाप ने ३५,००० स्विच बोर्ड प्लग १९५८ से १९६१ तक बनाये डिपार्टमेंटल यूज़ के लिए जिन की कीमत २९,६०० होती है । इनमें से २,०६५ स्विच बोर्ड प्लग जिनकी कीमत १७,५०० के करीब होती है डिपार्टमेंट द्वारा नामजूर कर दिये गये और कह दिया गया कि यह बेकार हैं । प्लग उसी कम्पनी ने बनाये, डिपार्टमेंट ने बनवाये और फिर भी कह दिया गया कि १७,५०० की कीमत के प्लग बेकार हैं । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि पहले से ही क्यों ऐसा नक्शा पास किया गया क्यों ये गलत तरीके से बनाये गये थे । बाद में उनको स्क्रैप समझ कर ११०० रुपये में बेच दिया गया । यह राष्ट्र का नुक्सान है और इस तरह की चीजों की ओर आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये ।

दूसरे चार हज़ार प्लग १९५८–५९ तक तैयार किये गये । उन में से १५२० फिर रिजैक्ट कर दिये गये जिनकी कीमत ४,६०० होती है । क्या रिजेक्ट करने का ठेका इस पी० एण्ड टी० डिपार्टमेंट ने ही ले रखा है ? समझ में नहीं आता है कि जो माल आपकी वर्कशाप में बनता है उसको रिजैक्ट कैसे कर दिया जाता है ? क्या इंजीनियर लोग इसको देखते नहीं हैं कि अच्छा बन रहा हैं या नहीं बन रहा है । इन दोनों केसिस में कुल २१,००० रुपये का नुक्सान हुआ ।

जबलपुर में ११८ लाख रुपये १९६१ से १९६३ तक सामान खरीदने पर ज्यादा खर्च हुए । गैलवेनाइज्ड ट्यूब्ज खरीदी गई थी जिस कम्पनी ने बनाई थी उसने कह दिया कि

[श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा]

स्टील की चादरें नहीं मिल रही हैं। इसलिए डायरेक्टर जनरल सप्लाई एंड डिसपोजल किसी दूसरी जगह से माल लें लें। इसके अन्दर १८ से ३८ परसेंट अधिक खर्च हुआ। पहले से इसको खरीद लिया गया होता तो यह नुक्सान नहीं होता। आर्डर तो दे दिया जाता है लेकिन माल स्टाक में होता नहीं है और न ही पूरा माल बनता है और उसका नतीजा यह होता है कि मांग को बाहर से खरीद कर पूरा किया जाता है जिस में नुक्सान उठाना पड़ता है। जब इस तरह से रुपया इधर उधर चला जाता है तो मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि गांवों का विकास टेलीफोन डिपार्टमेंट के द्वारा तो हो नहीं सकता है। जबलपुर में ट्यूब मेकिंग वर्कशाप में सैकिंड शिफ्ट चलाने के लिए १९६२ मई में फैसला किया गया था और कहा गया था कि रात की पाली चलनी चाहिये। लेकिन वह चली नहीं और परेशान हो कर दूसरी कम्पनी से माल लेना पड़ा। इस तरह से करोड़ों रुपये का गोलमाल हुआ। राष्ट्र की सम्पत्ति का जो नुक्सान हुआ उसको किसी भी सूरत में सहन नहीं किया जा सकता है।

अब मैं आर० एम० एस० के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूंठ। अपने कोटा क्षेत्र की बात मैं करता हूं। एक आर० एम० एस० का डिब्बा बड़ौदा से लगा आता है। वह इतनी छोटी बोगी होती है कि उसके अन्दर सारे डाक के थैले घुस भी नहीं पाते हैं फिर बैठने वालों को जगह मिलने की तो बात ही क्या। पहले भी इसका मैंने जिक्र किया था और माननीय जगजीवन राम जी ने कहा था कि इसको हम बदल देंगे। पता नहीं क्यों उसको आज तक बदला नहीं गया है। शायद उसका कोई नक्शा पास ही नहीं हुआ है या आपके पास बड़ा डिब्बा ही नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूं कि वह डिब्बा इतना बड़ा तो हो कि स्टाफ के आदमी अच्छी तरह से बैठ सकें और थैले भी उस में आसानी से आ सकें। अगर उनको बैठने का स्थान मिल जाये तो वे काम अच्छी तरह से कर सकते हैं।

जो लोकल गाड़ी चलती है बड़ौदा से मथुरा तक, उसके अन्दर अगर मेल वैन लगे तो स्टेशन स्टेशन पर वह ठहरता जा सकता है। तब जो स्टाफ है वह मेल वैन से डाक उतारेगा और उसी दिन उस डाक को गांव में पहुंचा देगा। आजकल होता यह है कि १९ डाक से मेल वैन जाता है और आठ आठ और दस दस स्टेशनों के बाद वह ठहरता है। जो डाक कर्मचारी डाक लेने के लिए आते हैं वे आठ दस दिन के बाद ही डाक पहुंचा पाते हैं। इस वास्ते मैं चाहता हूं कि मेल वैन चलाया जाये। यह बहुत जरूरी है। यह लोकल गाड़ी में चलना चाहिये।

आर० एम० एस० वालों को जो वर्दियां मिलती हैं वह तीन तीन साल के बाद मिलती है। थर्ड क्लास वालों की हालत को आप देखें। बुरी उनकी हालत होती है। एक साल में ही वे वर्दियां फट जाती हैं थैले उठाते उठाते। आठ आने या एक रुपया महीने का जो उनको साबुन या साबुन के पैसे मिलते थे, वे भी बन्द कर दिये गये हैं इस संकटकाल के नाम पर। संकटकाल उनके लिए ही आ गया है, ऐसा मालूम देता है। आपने दो चार पांच या दस रुपये जो बढ़ाये हैं, वे निल के बराबर हैं, उसको देखते हुए जो महंगाई है। इस ओर आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

आपने भर्ती के लिए जो क्वालिफिकेशन रखी है वह मैट्रिकुलेशन रखी है। इतना होने पर भी ज्यादा आदमी आपके डिपार्टमेंट के अन्दर नहीं आते हैं। इसका कारण क्या है इसको आप देखें। कारण यह है कि मेहनत अधिक होती है और तनख्वाह लोगों को कम मिलती है। इसलिए लोग आपके डिपार्टमेंट में आते नहीं हैं। आपने २५१ आदमी लिये जिन में से शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के केवल दो और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के केवल

तीन आदमी थे। क्या वजह है कि शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के आदमी आप को नहीं मिलते हैं। आप अनियमितायें बरतते हैं। आप उनको लेना नहीं चाहते हैं। उनको अधिक जगहें दी जानी चाहिये थीं।

आर० एम० एस० वालों के लिए जगह जगह आपने अच्छे रैस्ट हाउज बना रखे हैं। कोटा में भी रैस्ट हाउस है। शायद उस रैस्ट हाउस की दस साल में एक बार भी पुताई नहीं हुई है। उसमें दिल्ली की जनसंख्या को अगर आप लें तो उससे ज्यादा खटमल आप को मिल जायेंगे। अगर आप समझते हैं कि वह गवर्नमेंट बिल्डिंग है तो साल भर में उस में पुताई एक बार तो होनी चाहिये, एक बार तो उसको सुधारा जाना चाहिये।

कोटा के अन्दर जो पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ का दफ्तर है वह मेरे खयाल से सौ, डेढ़ सौ या दो सौ साल पहले बना था, उसकी बिल्डिंग बनी थी। कई बार मैंने कनसल्टेटिव कमेटी में कहा है इसके बारे में। कभी कह दिया जाता है कि नक्शा बन गया है और कभी कह दिया जाता है कि ड्राफ्ट पास हो गया है, कभी कुछ और कह दिया जाता है। लेकिन अभी तक उसके लिए नई बिल्डिंग नहीं बन पाई है। आप करोड़ों रुपये की बिल्डिंग्ज बनाते हैं और बहुत जल्दी बना कर रख देते हैं। कब तक आप इस बिल्डिंग को नहीं बनायेंगे ? उसका बनाया जाना भी बहुत जरूरी है।

अर्जेंट लैटर्ज की, एक्सप्रेस लैटर्ज की जो आप डिलीवरी देते हैं उस में होता यह है कि जो आदमी उन चिट्ठियों को ले जाने वाला होता है उसको साइकल नहीं दिया जाता है। वह बेचारा पैदल फिरता है और इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि आज की चिट्ठियां कल मिलती हैं। उनको साइकल दिया जाना चाहिये। कोटा शहर इतना बढ़ गया है कि एक आदमी अगर फिरे तो सारे दिन में आधा शहर भी नहीं फिर पायेगा। इस ओर आप ध्यान दें।

जो डाक का ठेका आपने दे रखा है वह कोटा ट्रांस्पोर्ट कम्पनी को दे रखा है। गाड़ियां अगर दस मील चल जायें तो वहीं ठहर जाती हैं। फिर दूसरे दिन चलती है। इसलिये यह टेन्डर कैंसेल कर के दूसरे को दिया जाय।

16 hrs.

एक बात मैं और कहना चाहूंगा कि आर० एम० एस० वाले जब डाक ले कर जी० आई० पी० की ओर जाते हैं तो उन को ब्राड गेज पर पहुंचने के लिये लाइन क्रास करनी पड़ती है। इसलिये उन के वास्ते स्टेशन पर अंडरग्राउंड रास्ता बनाया जाये जैसा कि लखनऊ और अहमदाबाद रेलवे स्टेशनों पर है, जिस में कि ठेला का ठेला उस पर से निकल जाये। ऐसी व्यवस्था शीघ्र से शीघ्र कर दी जानी चाहिये।

उनकी तन्ख्वाहों में जो संशोधन किया गया है वह निल के बराबर है।

मैं एक बात के लिए आप को अवश्य धन्यवाद दूंगा कि आप ने कोटा के आर० एम० एस० का नया दफ्तर खोल दिया है। इस से वहां के लोगों को बहुत सुविधा मिल रही है। लेकिन यह अवश्य कहूंगा कि उन को कार्य प्रणाली जो है वह बहुत खराब है। आप ने साल भर पर टेस्ट तो रख दिया है लेकिन उस सम्बन्ध में कोई सुनवाई नहीं करता। आप लोगों से इम्तहान तो दिलवा देते हैं, उन से फार्म ले लेते हैं लेकिन दो दो साल तक कर्मचारियों को भरती नहीं करते। जो रिपोर्ट मैंने पढ़ी है उस से पता चलता है कि हर जगह पर कर्मचारियों की कमी है। इसलिये आप कर्मचारियों की संख्या बढ़ायें। डाक और तार को सही टाइम पर वितरित किया जाय और लोगों के लिये नये डाकखाने

[श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा]

बनाये जायें । जब इन सब बातों की व्यवस्था कर दी जायेगी तभी उद्धार हो सकता है ।

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on these Demands and made some important points. The hon. Minister will reply to the basic points raised by the hon. Members. I will deal with some of the points. I would first like to give an outline of the work we have been doing so far.

The mid-term appraisal of the third Plan reveals that the P. & T. Department has achieved the targets according to the Plan programme. Out of the total Plan allocation of Rs. 77.6 crores, Rs. 56 crores is expected to be spent by the end of 1963-64. We are confident that all targets will be achieved by the end of the Plan and in some cases the physical targets for the entire Plan will be exceeded.

As regards post offices, out of 23,000 post offices to be opened during the Third Plan period, 12,966 (905 urban and 12,061 rural) new post offices have been opened upto the end of December, 1963. The target for the number of Branch and E.D. post offices to be upgraded during the Third Plan period was 2,500. Out of this, 1,290 have been upgraded upto 31st December, 1963.

I am glad to say that in the postal side, the expansion compares favourably with some of the advanced countries like U.K., USA, Canada and Japan. While the traffic of postal articles has increased from about 2,300 million to about 5,400 million articles, the number of post offices has increased from 22,116 to 92,239. Thus since independence although there has been only about 135 per cent increase in the postal traffic, the number of post offices has increased by about 319 per cent. The increase in traffic is generally attributed to big cities and there has been no perceptible increase in the traffic in the rural areas. Even then, more than 90 per cent of the post offices now in existence are located in rural areas. This proves that special attention has been paid to the rural areas. Now postal expansion programme will have to concentrate more in the backward areas. The progressively liberalised policy of opening post offices in the permissible limit of loss of Rs. 750 or Rs. 1,000 per annum per post office, as the case may be, and at very backward areas, mostly tribal and border areas, at an enhanced permissible limit of Rs. 2,500 per annum per post office, has been followed. The Department had to suffer loss in the working expenses on Experimental Post Offices to the tune of Rs. 1,79,46,728.63 nP. during the Second Plan period and Rs. 1,27,90,877.85 nP. during the first two years of the third Plan. In spite of such loss, the Department had to continue the policy of expanding its programme of opening post offices in the border and backward areas, especially in the Hills as a public utility service. But, then, there is need for consolidating and improving the postal service.

16·06 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know how many branch post offices and how many sub-post offices have been opened?

Shri Bhagavati: I have already indicated it.

The Department is alive to the fact that there is much scope and need for improvement of mail and delivery services. There are at present about 8,000 villages where delivery is effected at an interval of more than a week. With the opening of more post offices, and more particularly with employment of additional delivery staff, this number will further

decrease during the Third Plan. There are still about 272 'No Dak' villages. All these are expected to be wiped out by the end of the Third Plan.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Villages will be wiped out? What will be wiped out?

Shri Bhagavati: I said 'No Dak' villages will be wiped out. A new scheme called the Panchayati Postal Scheme has been introduced on an experimental basis in Supa area of Poona District with effect from 2nd October, 1963.

Upgrading of more Branch and E.D. sub-offices into Departmental sub-offices, increasing, the number of mobile post offices, and replacement of Runners' lines by various expeditious modes of conveyance of mails, are some of the measures which have been taken for improvement of mail and delivery services. The Department has tried to strengthen supervision and taken such measures as test checks to guard against misdirection, wrong or non-delivery of mails, etc. Public complaints in such matters are always enquired into and proper remedial measures are taken. In the year 1963, 2,85,817 complaints of this nature were received. Action has been taken on 75,121 out of them.

Savings Bank facilities have been extended considerably. By the end of the third Plan, all the branch post offices at the headquarters of Panchayats, National Extention Service Blocks and Community Development areas as on April, 1961 would be provided with Savings Bank facilities.

Hon. Members referred to fraud cases. I can tell them that the percentage of fraud cases is very nominal. In 1961-62 the total number of money orders was 850 crores valued at Rs. 386 crores. Out of that, the number of fraud cases was only 407 valued at Rs. 1.97 lakhs, the percentage being 0.5 per cent. This does not, however, mean that we should slacken our vigilence.

The Postal Research Centre has been established in October, 1962. The Centre has initiated several schemes for the modernisation of the postal services. Among the major schems initiated may be mentioned the successful installation of the conveyor system at the Air. Sorting Office at Safdarjung Airport, Delhi, for handling of mails with a view to relieving the postal staff of fatiguing work, introduction of slot machines for vending postal stationery countermachines to expedite booking of parcels and coin changers to expedite the issue of change to the public.

Now, Sir, I want to submit that in the field of tele-communication also, rapid progress has been made. There were only 1,68,400 telephones in this country at the beginning of the First Plan. The number has gone up to 6,48,789 inclusive of public call offices and licensed system by the end of 1963. The total number of telephones in India at the end of the Third Plan will be about 8 lakhs. The Third Plan provides for 2,50,000 telephones and 1,200 exchanges. We have installed 1,83,840 telephones and opened 592 new exchanges. Yet, on 31st December, 1963, I have to admit, there was a registered waiting list of 2.4 lakhs for telephones all over the country. The waiting list, however, does not reflect the potential demand for telephones. It is much more than that. To keep in pace with the growth of development in industrial and other sectors, we shall have to make a big plan for expansion in this field. I hope with the support given by hon. Members it will be possible for us to undertake a much bigger plan in the Fourth Plan period.

Whereas on the postal side, consolidation is our main task, on the telecommunication side, expansion and introduction of new methods are still the main need. The main difficulty in this respect is shortage of materials and stores. Due to limitation in financial and material resources, particularly foreign exchange difficulty, delay in acquisition of sites,

[Shri Bhagavati]

expansion programme could not be pushed through as quickly as desired. The position has, however, eased to some extent at present, as a result of imports of equipment that are being made under the I.D.A. Loan.

I can understand when people complain and feel annoyed because of delay in trunk calls. The Department is making its best efforts to improve the service. The average efficiency at present is 78 per cent. Out of this 22 per cent ineffectives, 12 per cent ineffectiveness is due to subscribers not being available and the remaining 10 per cent is due to circuits not being available. The only answer to this is laying of coaxial cables and introduction of subscriber dialling system. This will be a landmark in the history of telecommunication development in this country.

The plan for the coaxial system, micro-wave system and carriers is being carried out. In the Third Plan, 3650 miles coaxial cable routes, and 1855 miles micro-wave routes will be completed. This will make possible to introduce subscriber dialling between important cities all over the country—some by the end of the Third Plan and the rest in the Fourth Plan period.

714 long distance P.C.O's were opened during these years. During the Third Plan the policy is to provide P.C.O's in all administrative towns down to tehsil and sub-tehsil and other towns with a population of over 20,000. About 500 administrative towns remain to be at present. By the end of the Third Plan, with the exception of about 100 towns, all the rest are expected to be covered.

651 telegraph offices have been opend during the first three years of the Plan. The number of telegraph offices at the beginning of the First Plan was 3,592. It is 7690 by the end of 1963. The total telegraph traffic has been growing steadily from year to year. It was 24:65 million messages in 1947-48. It is 40.65 million messages in 1962-63.

Under the present policy, telegraph offices are provided at district, subdivisional, tehsil or equivalent headquarters The P. & T. Board has recently decided to provide telegraph facilities at Block Development Headquarters and places having police stations under the charge of an officer not lower in rank than a Sub-Inspector subject to the accumulative loss for the whole Third Plan period being limited to Rs. 40 lakhs.

During the Third Plan, except about 100 such stations, all the others would have been provided. Most of the places with a population of over 5000 will be provided telegraph facilities by the end of the Plan subject to the condition that the annual loss is limited to Rs. 1000 per telegraph office and there is no telegraph office within 5 miles. 1,300 towns are yet to be covered on this basis. It is expected to complete the work within this Plan period.

Devnagari telegraph service was introduced in nine offices on 1st June, 1949. Now this service is available in 2,162 telegraph offices. There are at present about 15,000 operators, out of which 4,500 have been duly trained in Devnagari telegraphy. A programme for the training of a larger number of officials is under consideration.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Where are they trained?

Shri Bhagavati: In different places.

Occasionally discussion is raised about posting of telegrams. In 1962-63 only 1·03 per cent of the telegrams had to be posted. Steps have now been taken to improve the service. Laying of coaxial cables is expected to remove the difficulties of overhead lines which are always subjected to weather conditions. Copper wire

theft is another cause of interruption. The value of copper wire theft on alignment in 1962-63 amounts to Rs. 12·51 lakhs. With a view to reduce the incidence of copper wire theft, action has been taken for replacement of copper wire by copper-weld wire.

Telex service is now available at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. International Telex service has been introduced at Calcutta during 1963. India is now connected with 42 countries through direct telex connections with international net works. This service has become popular with the industries and business houses. It will divert some of the traffic from the public telegraph network to the telex network and improve the situation.

In all 22 new teleprinter exchanges will be working at the end of the Third Plan, as against the two exchanges working before the commencement of the Plan. Various Government and semi-government organisations as well as some private users like the Press, Oil companies, industries etc., would find a greater advantage in exclusive renting of point-to-point circuits. Already, there are on hand about 300 such demands for leased circuits. Most of these demands will be met by the end of the Third Plan.

There is a shortage of teleprinters. The programme of teleprinters at the Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd., Madras has been expanded. Up to 15th February, 1964, 819 teleprinters have been produced. Hindi teleprinters are also likely to be manufactured by the end of 1965.

India's Overseas Communication network consist of linking up with other countries with radio-telegraph, radio-telephone and radio-photo services. Direct radio-telegraph links have been established with 24 countries, direct radio-telephone services with 25 countries, and direct-radio-photo services with 8 countries. In addition, radio-telephone and radio-photo services are also available via international network to many other countries of the world. The Overseas Communications Service has four gateway centres for the handling of international communications and they are: Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras.

For successful implementation of the programme of the Department and also to provide efficient service to the public, attention has been paid to two important aspects, *viz.*, the manufacture and training. So far as indigenous production is concerned, I.T.I., three P & T workshops and the Tele-communication Research Centre have made their own contribution. The Tele-communication Research Centre has made good contribution in the field of design for indigenous manufacture and introduction of new services and of new techniques and intensive exploitation of the existing assets to provide extra-tele-communication facilities usefully and economically.

The Estimates Committee recommended that a quinquennial review of the research work done by the Tele-communication Research Centre may be undertaken by the P&T Department. This recommendation has been accepted by the Department. In the meantime, the members of the Committee on organisation of Scientific Research under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. J. Bhabha have visited the Tele-communication Research Centre once. They will continue their review.

The target for production in the P&T Workshops for 1963-64 has been fixed at Rs. 425 lakhs as against the outturn of Rs. 392 lakhs in the previous year. At the end of January 1964, production to the extent of Rs. 333·78 lakhs has been achieved. Production for the year 1964-64 has been tentatively fixed at 25 per cent more than the production target of 1963-64. In order to achieve more production in the P&T Workshops, the Workshops at Calcutta, Jabalpur

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and Bombay are being modernised with fast moving modern plant and machinery.

A reference was made by my hon. friend to the Audit Report in connection with these workshops. I would like to submit that the Audit Reports will have to be reviewed by the Public Accounts Committee. Then the Department will have a chance to place their viewpoint. So, it will be better for the members to discuss it afterwards.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: So, you are only putting off the evil day.

Shri Bhagavati: Production at ITI has gone up. The sales during 1963-64 is expected to be of the order of Rs. 910 lakhs, as against this the sales during 1962-63 was of the order of Rs. 778 lakhs and in 1961-62 the value of sales was Rs. 564·02 lakhs. The increase in the value of sales will, therefore, be about 17 per cent over the value of sales of 1962-64. It is expected that over and above what has been consumed in this country, the ITI will be in a position to export goods worth Rs. 9 lakhs to Nepal, Ceylon, Sudan, Egypt, Uganda and Kuwait.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am sorry to interrupt the Minister. What is the position regarding the instrument called Priyadarsini which they are manufacturing? Is it on a mass scale?

Shri Bhagavati: That is not the main or only instrument manufactured here.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am referring to this particular instrument—Priyadarsini. Are they manufactuing it on a mass scale?

Shri Bhagavati: A decision has been taken to enter into a contract with the Bell Telephone Manufacturing Company, Belgium, subject to a satisfactory settlement of detailed terms for the purchase of crossbar type of telephone switching equipment and also for the manufacture of the same at ITI. The hon. Member, Dr. Ranen Sen, has said that it was wrong to enter into this contract. As the hon. Minister will deal with it, I will not go into it in detail. I will only say that the World Bank, the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Industries, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Cabinet Sub-Committee have all gone through this question, they have carefully considered all the aspects and then come to this decision.

The Department has to make its own arrangement for imparting specialised training to its employees at various levels.

As regards the training of personnel in the field of telecommunication all such personnel is given training before appointment. There are at present Telecommunication Training Centres at Jabalpur, Trivandrum, Calcutta, Ambala, Madras, Nasik, Jaipur, Jammu, Lucknow, Patna, Nagpur, Kakinada, Bangalore and Ahmedabad. In addition, a number of training classes exist in each circle for training of certain cadres. These are gradually being re-organised in the form of training centres in each circle. To keep knowledge of the personnel abreast of the technical advancement in the telecommunition technique, special and refresher courses are arranged. It will be necessary to take some advance action in the matter of training to the required number of staff for carrying out our enlarged Plan subsequently.

In the postal side, training facilities exist in the two residential training centres at Saharanpur and Baroda. These two centres cater to the training needs of Northern, Western and Central Circles. Regarding other Circles, training needs are met by various non-residential training classes. It is proposed to have residential training centres for the Southern and Eastern zones.

During the last two years the demands on the P&T Department for different purposes and high priority requirements has been enormous. This work as a result of this has increased very much. Two 12 Channel Terminal system, twelve 8 Channel and Ten 3 Channel have been completed within the shortest possible time. Five 8 Channel system will be ready by 31st March, 1964. 66 V.F.T. Channels have also been added. It is gratifying and praiseworthy that the officers and the employees of the P&T Department rose to the occasion and did their best to meet the demand.

The problem of inadequacy of departmental buildings for post offices or RMS offices, to which a reference was made by hon. Members, is really a big one. I agree with them that the building position is not at all satisfactory. Of the 11,160 departmental post offices, 1,714 are only located in departmental buildings. It has been decided that as far as possible it would be preferable to have departmental buildings for post offices. Various measures have been taken up or contemplated to expedite the process of building projects. Since the commencement of the Third Plan up to 31st December, 1963, 63 new biuldings for post offices and RMS operative offices have been constructed. Also, six departmental buildings have been reconstructed and 119 departmental buildings have been extended. Besides, 98 buildings are under construction. During the first two years of the Third Plan 28 new Exchange buildings have been built and 5 extended.

The department is fully alive to the fact that the efficiency of the staff depends to a large extent in the atmosphere of the place of work and residence. Keeping that in view, we have not only to provide adequate accommodation for office purpose, but we have also to provide residential accommodation to employees. The present Minister as well as the previous Minister have, therefore, given special emphasis on raising the tempo of construction work. I will inform the hon. Members that the P&T Board and the officers are also equally anxious to build as many houses as possible. With the formation of the Civil Construction Wing under this department from 1st July 1963, improvement in the progress of building work has been noticed. The tempo of construction has continued to increase.

It will be seen from the fact that during the current year it is expected to spend about Rs. 3 crores on office and residential buildings out of which about Rs. 1 crore will be for housing the employees. The expenditure of Rs. 3 crores compares favourably with an expenditure of Rs. 1·55 crores in 1961-62 and Rs. 2·45 crores in 1962-63.

1,400 quarters were provided during the first two years of the Third Plan. During the current year it is expected that 1,000 units will be ready for occupation. The targets fixed for 1964-65 is 1,200. At the end of the Third Plan it is expected that a total of 13,500 quarters would be available for the staff all over the country. But this would account barely for 5 per cent of the staff. Apart from the usual building grant, the balance in the P & T Development Fund can be utilised to meet expenditure on staff quarter building projects. I can tell the hon. Members that subject to availability of resources we propose to have a bigger plan to provide residential quarters to the P & T staff. A departmental committee with the Secertary as Chairman has been formed to review the progress made and to expedite the construction work.

Staff amenities, i.e., canteens, recreation club rooms etc. have been provided in 207 cases. The Department has proposed to extend its scheme of departmental dispensaries for P & T staff and their families to all stations where the number of people employed is 1,000 or more. In

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pursuance of this policy, nine dispensaries have so far been sanctioned out of which seven have started functioning.

134 co-operative credit societies and about 35 co-operative consumer stores organised and run by the P & T employees at different places in the country have been functioning well in different centres. The recommendations of the Study Group, set up by the Community Development Ministry, to help these societies are under consideration. I hope, a decision will be taken as soon as possible.

It is proposed to set up nine new Holiday Homes in addition to the five already existing at suitable stations for the benefit of P & T employees and their family members so as to provide . . .

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Have you considered Dalhousie for a Holiday Home?

Shri Bhagavati: For the employees so that they can go there for recreation . . . so as to provide at least one Holiday Home in each P & T Circle excluding Delhi.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will they get free lodging and boarding?

Shri Bhagavati: Not free. Lodging is free.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It should be a holiday.

Shri Bhagavati: The financial implication will be Rs. 31,500 non-recurring and Rs. 32,400 recurring per annum.

In pursuance of the Pay Commission's recommendation on canteen facilities to Government servants, the new scheme of financial assistance to the canteens and tiffin rooms has been introduced. Necessary orders have been issued this year.

Scholarships are also given to the children of P. & T. employees from the P. & T Welfare Fund. Funds ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. are given. The total amount spent in 1963 was about Rs. 1 lakh.

In pursuance of the Central Pay Commission's recommendations, a new scheme of overtime allowance has been introduced for the staff working in the Department. with effect from 1st March, 1964.

Shri D. C. Sharma: But they are not satisfied with it.

Shri Bhagavati: About 1 lakh P & T employees who were not hitherto eligible to overtime allowance will be benefited by the new scheme. The scheme also provides for grant of overtime allowance at higher rates for work performed on Sundays, weekly offdays and holidays.

I would like to say in this connection that Dr. Ranen Sen said that this dearness allowance was paid before the 31st March, 1964 so that the employees are required to pay compulsory deposit. I should like to tell him that it was up to the individual officers or the officer's establishment to draw and disburse the amount either in 1963-64 or in 1964-65 as was convenient and possible for them. Incidence of income-tax and compulsory deposit will follow the law and the procedure governing the same.

The Department keeps itself informed with the public views, complaints and suggestions through the P. & T. Advisory Committees at Circle and Divisional level and Telephone Advisory Committees at different stations. In the Informal Regional Consultative Committee meetings with hon. Members of Parliament, detailed discussions take place. Discussions in these meetings have proved to be very helpful. The Central P. & T. Advisory Council is another forum where the

representatives of the State Governments, some Ministries of the Government of India and the public meet and discuss matters relating to the P. & T. Its second meeting was held on the 22nd and 23rd November, 1963.

The total staff of the P. & T. Department was 427,029 including 157,676 Extra Departmental employees and 2,134 Gazetted officers. It is gratifying that good labour relations have been maintained with the unions and the employees. The meetings with the union representatives are held at different levels at regular intervals. They have proved to be very useful media to know the problems of the employees and thrash out such issues as may be raised. Apart from the meeting at Circle levels, in 1963, 8 formal meetings were held at the Centre with the Federation of P. & T. Employees Union, inculsive of 5 meetings which the DG held with the National Federation of the P. & T. Employees and its nine affiliated unions.

With a view to acquainting the public with the correct use of the P. & T. services, a Publicity Cell has been set up in the P. & T. Directorate. The Cell has taken up a number of measures in this direction. "Correct addressing of mails" was this year's theme for publicity. As you know, Sir, incorrect addresing is one of the causes of delaved delivery of mails, wrong and misdirection of mails and so on.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: There are many other causes also.

Shri Bhagavati: Some other points have been raised by hon. Members. I can tell them that all the suggestions will be taken into consideration and the hon. Minister will reply to all the important matters.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Warior.

Shri Warior (Trichur): Shall I be given a chance tomorrow?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He will have to take the chance. I cannot promise.

Shri Warior: I thought, Shri Banerjee was going to be given the chance today; or else I can begin.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): Give him time tomorrow.

Shri Warior: I will take the chance tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Banerjee.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Surely, Shri Banerjee must have quorum.

Shri Ranga: Shri Banerjee is like our Shri Yashpal Singh.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no quorum?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: No; there are only 41 or so.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung . . . Now there is quorum. Shri Banerjee.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma (Khammam): Nowhere in the history of Parliament in other countries do they press for quorum like this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This is in the Constitution. Amend the Constitution.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and his Ministry for doing some very good work though he is not free from criticism. I would like to mention certain things so that there will be more efficiency and rectification of mistakes.

My hon. friend, Dr. Ranen Sen, has mentioned something about the functioning of the P. & T. Board. We were very happy when the P. & T. Board was formed, but I remember in this House my hon. friend, Shri Harish

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

Chandra Mathur gave a note of caution that the P. & T. Board should not follow the Railway Board *in toto;* any defect in the Railway Board should not creep in the P. & T. Board; rather, they should have their own policy so that a better functioning is expected of them.

What do we find in the functioning of the Board? Without imputing any motive to any member or members, I must say that in certain cases posts are created to suit the convenience of some members. Some extension is denied to people only because some other member is interested in getting that post. Posts are created and not filled up because the person who is interested in that post is not available. The Member (Administration) who should be mainly responsible for the staff does not have any responsibility as the other members would not part with their zamindari, I should say, or with their functions. It is not proper for me also to say something more about the members of the Board. I have the greatest regard for them but I would only say that they should function properly. It is for the Government to decide the policies which should be translated into action by the members of the Board.

Then, I come to the question of efficiency. It seems that no one is interested in efficient functioning of the Department. I do not say for a moment that the employees and the officers are inefficient. They are efficient. But the collective efficiency which is expected from them is missing somewhere, with the result that there is a fast deterioration in the efficiency of the P. & T. Department. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken to see that this Department remains efficient and becomes more efficient. There are certain things which have to be looked into before the efficiency is improved and we can have better efficiency.

My hon friend Dr. Ranen Sen had mentioned about the contract with Bell Co. While replying to the short notice question the other day, in one breath, the hon. Minister said that this particular company which was a subsidiary of another American firm was not involved in any espionage case in Tunisia. But, again when he was replying to supplementary questions, he admitted that there was some charge against that particular firm; and the same firm had been accused of subversive activities in another country. I would like to know why a contract is being entered into with that very firm. This is some thing which I am not able to understand. It is high time that it should be properly reviewed and it should be seen whether that company should be given any contract.

In our country, we are always afraid of espionage activities both by the Chinese spies and by the Pakistani spies. Should we indulge in something which would give a further chance for espionage or spying in our country? I do not want to impute any motives to this particular company, but there might be chances for such activity. Their record clearly shows that they were blacklisted by that country and they got compensation only and nothing else. The contract was cancelled and they got only compensation. And yet, we are so much enamoured of this particular company that we are giving them this contract. I would earnestly request the hon. Minister and the members of the P. & T. Board to see that it should be properly reviewed; I do not say that it should be cancelled, but it should be reviewed and the matter should be considered whether this is at all necessary.

Then, I may come to the question of the losses that would be involved as a result of that deal. About Rs. 50 lakhs worth of foreign exchange will be needed for 48,000 telephones because of this contract. 25 per cent of the cost would be accounted for by depreciation, and it will come to this that there will be a constant loss. Who is responsible for this loss? There

is no doubt that we are short of telephones and there are thousands of applications pending for telephones, either under the OYT scheme or any other scheme, and we want the telephones to be provided. But we should see that there is no recurring loss because of certain defective planning or lack of planning.

Then, I come to the question of inadequate staff. Wherever I go as the president of a particular union or a circle union, whether it be Kanpur, Jabbalpur or Nagpur or any other place, I find that there is inadequate staff. Every time we write a letter to the postmaster-general, we are told that every step is being taken to provide adequate staff, but it is never provided. The volume of work in the P.&T. Board has abnormally increased, and thanks to the employees who even after this strenuous work are working efficiently. I take my hat off to them for their efficient functioning. But they should be provided with adequate staff. I remember that in Kanpur, I had given a detailed note to the postmaster-general about this matter and I had requested him that the staff should be augmented, and I am still to see more staff there. It is not a question of the Department being overstaffed, but at least the under-staffing must come to an end.

Many points have been mentioned about the RMS workers. There are two problems which are agitating the minds of the RMS workers. One is inadequate outstation allowances. These outstation allowances were fixed at a time when the cost of living was very much lower, that is, in 1948 or 1949—I do not remember the exact year—when the prices had not risen to the present level. Today, when the prices have gone up to the present level and the cost of living has gone up beyond our comprehension, it should be reviewed. There was a promise that the outstation allowance would be reviewed, but unfortunately it has not been done so far. I would request the hon. Minister that immediate steps should be taken to review these outstation allowances.

Then, there is the question of the increment test for the sorters. A sorter might have completed 20 or 30 years of service, and yet in order to get Rs. 4 as increment, he has to appear for a test called the increment test. It is not a test for promotion but an increment test. Merely to get an increment of Rs. 4, he has to appear for a test. After all, is he not efficient? He has spent the best portion of his life in the RMS, but even after 20 years of faithful, loyal and efficient service, he has got to appear for a test. I would request that the increment test must be abolished immediately because it is working as a disincentive to the RMS sorters.

Then, I would say a word about the linemen staff. During the Chinese aggression, these linemen had worked everywhere beyond our imagination. They had worked even in the highest places in the country risking their life and leaving their families without any separation allowance whatsoever, and they had rendered a miraculous service for the sake of the nation. And yet their demand is not being conceded. It has been proved beyond doubt that these linemen are doing a skilled job. Yet, they have not been categorised as skilled workers. This is really a sad commentary on the categorisation committee or on the various recommendations of the Pay Commission. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly see that these linemen are categorised as skilled workers.

I would say a word also about the daily allowance that is given to them. When they stay somewhere beyond 24 or 48 hours, they should be given more daily allowances. I am sure that is a matter which is being considered by the P & T Board and I am sure that they will arrive at a decision very soon, but I request that the matter might be expedited.

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

In regard to dearness allowance, my hon. friend has already referred to this matter. What does this increase of Rs. 2 or 5 or 10 sanctioned recently by the Finance Minister reflect? If it is really neutralisation up to 125, then it should be paid from 1st November, 1961 and not from 1st July, 1963 as is being done which is absolutely wrong. The neutralisation should be done up to 135 actually. According to the Finance Minister, the figure is 134.8 while it is 138 according to us. So, the matter should be reviewed further.

Then, I would also submit that the compulsory deposit should be immediately paid back to the employees. They should not be compelled to deposit the compulsory deposit by incurring debts simply because the Finance Minister wants to see that this should be deposited though ultimately he wants to return it.

I am very happy that more and more of our sisters are getting employment. But I am surprised to read the following item in the journal called *Andhra Post*. There are two letters published there, one was written by one Shrimati Lakshmi, clerk, Postal Superintendent's Office, Kurnool, to Shri Rahimuddin Ahmed, DPS, Hyderabad-1. This is the letter she wrote—this is all printed:

"My dear Ahmed,

I think you are doing well. Nothing special here. The other day that Union Secretary and his assistant have threatened me like anything and I told everything to my husband. My husband has given them a good whip."

Then she writes:

"Today we have received our result. Thank you very much".

It is the result of a particular examination. This letter was written on 6-3-63 from Kurnool. Our sister, Lakshmi, had written this in connection with employment in the Savings Bank Incentive Scheme.

I never knew that there are Romeos in this department. There is a Romeo called Mr. Rahimuddin Ahmed, a senior officer. He had written a letter. He saw to it that Roll No. K 11....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This should first have been sent to the Minister. Names cannot be mentioned here like this.

Shri A. K. Sen: May I request the hon. Member to send this individual case to me so that I can look into it?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There is no question of individuals.

Shri A. K. Sen: Names have been mentioned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He should first have sent it to the Minister and if there was no proper answer, it could have been taken up here. It is not proper to raise this matter in this way. This is a very serious matter. He should not just read out such things from any paper.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This is not from a newspaper. This is actually from a monthly journal of the Posts and Telegraphs employees which is circulated to the P & T Administration. I am really sorry if they cannot read these things there.

Shri Ranga: Why not mention the name of the Romeo?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it published by the Department?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is published by the employees with the permission of the Department.

Shri A. K. Sen: It has always been the practice that those who are not present here are not referred to in this manner. If such things are mentioned, how can it be answered now?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not mentioning anything else.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am suggesting to the hon. Member to first send it to the Minister. If he does not get a proper reply, then it might be raised here.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is not an individual grievance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But there must be a proper procedure and time to raise it.

He should not have mentioned names. He mentioned the name of a lady and also the other name.

Shri Ranga: That is all right. She has herself given it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I have got the original letter here. If you will permit me, I will place it on the Table.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not necessary. I am not concerned.

Shri A. K. Sen: There is no case which is forwarded to me which I do not inquire into immediately, particularly when it comes from Members of Parliament. But as I said, it is a healthy practice that we have followed not to make such references to those who are not present here. What is the difficulty in sending it to me?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not against Romeos. I am not devoid of romanticism.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His time is up.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I was interrupted.

I will just read a paragraph and finish it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He need not. Let him please wind up. He has mentioned names. Sufficient mischief has already been done.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is the mischief, Sir? You are the custodian of the rights of Members. Kindly hear me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Every Member should realise his obligation.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not mentioning anything about this particular officer, in seeing that she passed the examination. She has passed the examination. Then he writes:

> "Now, I have to see how far the subsequent promises made in your last four letters written after my last visit to KNL will be kept up and the sincerity on your part proved".

Serious action should be taken against this officer who has got the guts to write this letter. A photostat copy has been taken of it. I have got the original letter also. As I said, serious action should be taken. Otherwise, our sisters who are being employed, will be faced with a situation . . .

An Hon. Member: She may be a Juliet.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I do not know.

There are thousands and thousands of our sisters who are working in these departments.

This Romeo should be sent to England. He should not be kept in India. I again request that this should be inquired into properly and serious action should be taken. I shall pass this on to the hon. Minister. I have got the original letter writen by this officer concerned.

Shri A. K. Sen: Action has already been taken.

Shri B. K. Das (Contai): The Deputy Minister, speaking on many points raised during the discussion, threw some light on different activities of this Department.

[Shri B. K. Das]

It is gratifying to note that this Department has been making good progress in its many-sided activities.

16.55 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Regarding the financial aspect, it is following the pattern of the railways and as in the railways, it has opened three funds to which appropriations are being made. Appropriations are being made to the Renewal Reserve Fund, the Development Fund and the Revenue Reserve Fund annually. From the coming year, the contribution to the Renewals Reserve Fund will be a charge on working expenses. Appropriations will continue to be made to the Development Fund and the Revenue Reserve Fund.

One hon. Member observed that there is not much need for the Revenue Reserve Fund. I agree that probably in a department like this, there is not much need for a Revenue Reserve Fund and the Rs. 5 crores appropriated so far to this Fund may be usefully utilised for augmenting the Development Fund. The Development Fund is to be utilised for staff quarters and other matters.

As the Estimates Committee has observed, there should be specific objects for which the Development Fund is used. I hope the scope of this Fund will be specified, for certain specific purposes and from time to time expenses for such purposes will be met from the fund.

I find that there is a decline of this fund of nearly Rs. 75 lakhs in the coming year in the budget. I do not find any reason for it. In 1963-64, there was an appropriation of Rs. 2.50 crores. But in the budget, I find it will be Rs. 1.75 crores. I think this decline is unjustified and this fund should be augmented.

We find that the Development Fund was started in 1960-61 with Rs. 1 lakh. During 1961-62 and 1962-63, there was no appropriation to this fund. Only in 1963-64, there was appropriation of Rs. 250 lakhs, and in the budget there will be an appropriation of Rs. 175 lakhs.

The Estimates Committee has observed that the extent of contribution to be made to the Revenue Reserve fund may be so fixed that it may enable the department to meet replacement cost from time to time. I think this is being taken care of. I do not find in the Report if this has been followed, but it is only mentioned that proper notice has been taken of this remark.

Mr. Speaker: Here we stop and take up the calling Attention Notice.

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17 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Judgment of Punjab High Court re: Rehabilitation Ministry's interference in administration of justice.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrakpore): In the statement which has been placed before us, the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation has said that the Punjab High Court based its finding of bias on two circumstances:

> "(1) that the Regional Settlement Commissioner had issued secret instructions on the 9th September, 1960, that the sale certificate should not be issued, and
>
> (2) that he had forwarded a draft show-cause notice from the Deputy Chief Settlement Commissioner and directed the Managing Officer, Hyderabad, that the notice should be issued by him after signing it and that an order must be passed on the 14th October, 1960."

He says that actually the department had been advised on the 20th September by the Law Ministry and thereafter this was done. I would like to know if it is not a fact that the "secret" orders for not issuing the sale certificate to the auction purchaser was given by the Regional Settlement Commissioner on 8th September, 1960, and orders were passed quickly on 17th September, long before the Law Ministry had given its advice on the 20th September? How is it that this followed a letter by Tyagiji, a Member of Parliament, to Dharma Vira, which states:

> "Enclosing teleprinter message received from your lawyer Shankara Rao."

"Your" means Rehabilitation Ministry's lawyer, but that teleprinter message is being sent to Dharma Vira by Tyagiji. He adds:

> "According to him there is no stay in operation now. Could you call Mr. Chaudhuri, Custodian of Bombay to your residence and have a word with him."

Immediately after, on the 8th, secret instructions are given, and on the 17th, the orders are given effect to. I would like to know if this is not something which can be interpreted by the Ministry also as pressure being brought on quasi-judicial officers.

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): The position very plainly is that we sold one property for Rs. 3½ lakhs to a refugee, and provisional possession was given to him in 1958. Shri Mangaram was himself a bidder, and he bid for this property to the extent of Rs. 3,30,000. Under the law, he was entitled to two years protection. More than six or seven years have passed and we have failed to give possession to the auction purchaser. More than six or seven years have passed.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): Now.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Yes, up till now. We have failed to give possession to the auction purchaser. Now, even in the orders of the High Court, the word "quasi-judicial" has been used. 'Quasi-judicial," to a lay man like me, will be half-judicial and half-executive'. All these officers in my department are exercising executive functions as well as judicial functions. This is abnormal law passed with a view to meet an abnormal situation, and the idea was to give summary justice. So, what we have done is this.

Shri Ranga: Eight years.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: May I proceed?

We have tried our best all these years to give possession to the auction purchaser. Firstly, we gave him provisional possession. This file has been to the Ministry of Law at least half a dozen times, if not more. We have taken the advice of the Ministry of Law at various stages, and the advice given to us was that if we gave the auction purchaser the sale certificate, another period of two years would accrue and this thing would go on as it had gone on for all these years.

I am sorry that certain observations have been made by the High Court. I bow my head to those observations, but as far as we are concerned in the Ministry, we have not been actuated by anything which a Member of Parliament may have written to us. In fact, not a day passes when I do not receive letters in these quasi-judicial cases, even in cases which relate to section 33 of the Act, from Members of this side of the House and that side of the House. We look into all these things. The only thing I have to see as Minister is whether, if an M.P. writes to me, that has any impression on my mind, whether we do anything wrong.

[Shri Mehr Chand Khanna]

And the Judge himself has held in the findings that have been given by him, that as far as I and my Secretary were concerned—we are the persons who receive nearly all the latters—he was satisfied that we were not actuated by any motive, that we were not influenced in any way by any letter sent by a Member of Parliament.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): I want to raise a point of order, whether the action of any Member of Parliament can be discussed here.

Mr. Speaker: That would be a different thing.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: In one way or other, that is being discussed. If a letter was addressed to a quasi-judicial officer, that quasi-judicial officer himself was competent to take proceedings against him.

Shri Ranga: After seven years of delay?

Shri Sinhasan Singh: I want to know whether it concerns Parliament here.

Mr. Speaker: There is no point of order. Hem Barua. Dinen Bhattacharya.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What is your ruling on the point of order?

Mr. Speaker: Saradish Roy, Bade, Pottekkatt, Yash Pal Singh.

Shri Yash Pal Singh (Kairana): My question is covered.

Mr. Speaker: T. K. Chaudhuri.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: Have you ruled it out of order? May I remind you of one incident?

Mr. Speaker: Let me first finish this. H. N. Mukerjee. Kashi Ram Gupta.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta (Alwar): May I know whether Government propose to enquire into the observations of bias made by the High Court Full Bench and specially about the letter written by the auction purchaser to Shri Tyagi on 25th August, 1958, saying:

> "While your goodself was Minister, you promised to help me in case I fulfilled all obligations on my part etc."

When he was first contacting Shri Tyagi, he was Defence Minister. After becoming a Member of Parliament, can he write such things to the officer concerned?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: There is no question of writing to the officers concerned. The letters that Tyagiji or Shri Hazarika has written are to me or my Secretary or my officers.

The position, as I gather from the letters of Tyagiji, is this. He goes to Hyderabad, I believe, in connection with a session of the AICC. Some one who is a refugee, brings to his notice: Here I am, I have purchased property worth Rs. 3½ lakhs; will you tell the Minister or somebody in Delhi to see that the physical possession of the property is given to me; I am a refugee, I have invested Rs. 3½ lakhs in this property.

Mangaram has been to the Andhra High Court four times.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Seven years have passed.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: And he has also been to the High Court of Punjab, and so far he has evaded the processes of law. Whatever the law is, I bow my head before that, but I certainly feel that as Minister in charge of the Refugee Department, I have received Rs. 3½ lakhs from a party and I have not been able to give possession to that party up till now. That is my only regret.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee (Nabadwip): I heard the Minister saying that he is very law-abiding. He bows his head to the High Court Judges, and so I put him this question. The Full Bench of the Punjab High Court have held that the Settlement Commissioner was actuated by bias and that he had acted as a result of pressure from some quarter or another. This is their observation. I ask this law-abiding hon. Minister: what is he going to do to at one for that, and how does he want to compensate the allottee who has been wronged according to the Full Bench of the High Court?

Mr. Speaker: That he has answered. He says he was not actuated by that.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: He says he will obey the Punjab High Court, and they have held this.

Mr. Speaker: He has to bow before them, but he can hold his own opinion.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: What is he going to do for that, and how is he going to compensate the allottee who has been wronged?

Mr. Speaker: Has he anything to say? No.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Does the hon. Minister think that this particular letter in question was in any way, either in content or in tenor, different from the usual run of letters that the Minister or officers of his Ministry have received or are receiving continually from Members of Parliament and secondly, about this reference to Law Ministry, is it a fact that the Law Ministry also advised—what advice was given is not clear from the statement and I want it to be made clear—that the allottee should be evicted and vacant possession should be delivered to the auction purchaser?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: In the letter referred to, Tyagiji referred to some legal points and I immediately marked that letter to the Ministry of Law with the request that it should be put before the Law Minister and his advice taken on the legal issues raised by Tyagiji. The Law Minister has said in his opinion dated the 20th September, 1960—I shall read it with his permission:

> "It seems highly unjust that a party on whose request the time for two years was given wants now to start all over again. I, therefore, think that the Government should proceed with eviction. The High Court has not granted any stay.
>
> I, therefore, advise that to be absolutely on the safe side, the following steps should be taken:
>
> (a) No sale certificate should be issued to the auction purchaser and the property should be deemed to be an evacuee property until J. B. Mangharam & Co. evacuated.
>
> (b) A notice under section 19(2) of the Displaced Persons Act, read with rule 102(d) of the said Act, should be given on J. B. Mangharam & Co., requiring them to show cause why the allotment should not be terminated by the middle of October, 1960"—then a particular date is given—"and time should be given for show-cause. Thereafter they should be "asked to make over possession to the Regional Commissioner or to a duly authorised officer under section 19(2) of the said Act and the date and time should be mentioned when possession is to be made over. If possession is not made over as required the managing officer should evict

[Shri Mehr Chand Khanna]

them under section 19(3) of the said Act."

Further on, the Law Minister says:

"I think that the tenants have been adopting unfair tactics to prolong their stay and the steps indicated above should be taken speedily."

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: By your leave, Sir, the first part of my question.....

Mr. Speaker: Whether this letter was just in the ordinary course of things or there was something special in it.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Nothing special about it, Sir; it is one of the ordinary letters that I receive practically every day from Members of Parliament of this House, as well as the other House.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (बिजनौर) : जिन दो संसद् सदस्यों की चर्चा इस निर्णय में की गई है और जिसका कि उल्लेख पुनर्वास मंत्री ने अपने वक्तव्य में किया है यह दोनों ही संसद् सदस्य उस केस में पार्टी नहीं थे और उन को अपनी सफाई का मौका दिये बिना उनके विपरीत इस तरह की टिप्पणी की गई।

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : दुरुस्त है। उन बेचारों ने कोशिश की कि जो मेरा काम था उसकी उन्होंने याद दिहानी की और सिर्फ इसलिए वे मुसीबत में पकड़े गये। मुझे उनके लिए बहुत अफसोस है।

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I did not follow his reference to the High Court judgment.

Mr. Speaker: They were not parties to the proceedings and therefore, had no opportunity to defend themselves.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Of course the Full Bench of the High Court has made a very specific and a very serious charge about the way the Regional Settlement Commissioner dealt with the whole case. It has been proved also that the preliminary notice dated 28th September, 1960 referred to in the judgment of Andhra Pradesh High Court was obviously given after instructions of the Law Ministry and was actually drafted by the Regional Settlement Commissioner and sent to the Managing Officer for serving on the petitioner. This was followed by the hearing on the 14th October and the order for handing over possession of the factory was later set aside by the Andhra Pradesh High Court. I would like to know whether such letters which are written to the Secretary to the Ministry—the lawyer's opinion to the Rehabilitation Minister—are sent not to the Secretary of the Rehabilitation Ministry but through Shri Tyagi to the Rehabilitation Ministry. This is the sentence which I would like to refer: I want to know whether this is the normal run of letters that our M.P.s write to the Minister: "Could you call Mr. Chowdhuri, Cutadian at Bombay, to your residence and have a word with him?" Is this the reflection which the hon. Minister is putting on all the letters which he receives from the various Members of Parlitment?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Sir, if we go through these letters, one intention is absolutely clear, and the intention is this: please see that the possession of the property is restored or given to the auction purchaser. That is the entire theme of the letter.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: No. (*Interruption*).

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: You may not agree with me. I do not want you to agree with me, but I have a right to make a statement. My statement is this. I have given a statement in writing. The hon. lady Member has referred to the judgement of the Andhra Pradesh high court. May I read out? It is very interesting. It says: "The order cancelling the allotment was held not to be irregular by that high court, but the notice to surrender possession was held to be illegal as no notice to show cause against the eviction was given as required by the law." (*Interruption*).

Let me proceed.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The High Court therefore directed the possession of the factory should be returned to the allotees, though they could be evicted after following the procedure prescribed by law. Further on, it says that this matter can be gone into in appeal, review and all that. All these actions were taken. So, what I am trying to submit is—I am not defending Shri Tyagi or Shri Hazarika or anybody— if people from cutside or within the House have expresed any anxiety to see that justice is done, that was simply in favour of the refugee so that the unfortunate person gets his due, the Ministry of Rehabilitation sees to it. Nothing beyond that. I feel that nothing beyond that has been done. As I have stated, I receive representations from Members of Parliament in cases relating to section 33, section 16 and others. We go into those cases. But that does not mean that at every letter that comes to me, I at once become biassed or prejudiced in favour of or against anybody. We have the letters examined.

I am grateful to the Ministry of Law. They have come to my rescue at all times and gave me an opinion in these very difficult and intricate matters, because, as you know, Sir, there is no precedent for this law. There is nothing to fall back upon. The whole thing has started from scratch, and this law is to meet an abnormal situation so that summary justice can be given to the displaced persons.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मैं चाहता था कि अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप इस बारे में कुछ हमारा मार्ग दर्शन करें कि हम संसद् के सदस्य जो यहां पर चुन कर आते हैं और कोई दुखी व्यक्ति अपना दुखड़ा लेकर हमारे पास आये तो हमें यह बतलाया जाय कि हम फिर मिनिस्टर्स को कैसी भाषा में उसके बारे में लिखें ताकि इस तरह की कोई आलोचना हमारे विरुद्ध उस कारण न हो।

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I submit this? Some rich person who can bid for Rs. 3,50,000 is quite capable of going to court, and, as the Minister himself had rightly pointed out earlier—I do not know what happened later—as long as it is under section 19(2), the department can take action for ejectment; but when the certificate is given over to the refugee, action is expedited, and after that, the person can go to the court of law and take full protection of the law. But actually what was done was, pressure was brought upon the Ministry to actually take departmental proceedings for ejectment. (*Interruption*).

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): May I have your permission to write one more letter to the Minister in this case?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I hope not.

Shri Ranga: Are you going to give a ruling, Sir? It is an important matter to be discussed separately.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of giving any ruling at this moment.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: I wanted to have a clarification of the position; the Members are here. The hon. lady Member has brought the problem here because somebody must have approached her. (*Interruption*).

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Nobody has approached me. It is very wrong. I have gone through the judgement. It has come out in the *Times of India*. What is this insinuation? I seek your protection. (*Interruption*)

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members should resume their seats. The hon. lady Member also should resume her seat.

Shrimati Renu Charavartty: There is the ruling from the court. Nobody has approached me. You must protect me, Sir. No such aspersion should be made. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: There is no aspresion in that. In everything we do here, certainly we are briefed by somebody or other. It may not be briefing in the sense that lawyers are briefed, but at least the information that is given to us comes fro outside source. There is no harm if somebody approaches the Members of Parliament and they have to discharge their duties. They are representatives of the people and people have got to go to them.

17:22 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*contd.*

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS & TELEGRAPHS—*contd.*

Mr. Speaker: Shri B. K. Das may resume his speech.

Shri B. K. Das: Sir I was referring to the remarks of the Estimates Committee about the Renewals Reserve Fund of the P and T Department There is another remark which the Estimates Committee made about this fund. The Estimates Committee remarked:

> "The net accretions to the Fund have not kept pace with the growth of capital investment, with the result that replacements have to be partly met from fresh interest-bearing capital."

I hope the Department has taken note of this observation also and would try to manage the fund accordingly.

17:23 hrs.

[SHRI KHADILKAR *in the Chair*]

The Deputy-Minister referred to the special programme for the backward areas. During the third Plan, 200 new post offices are to be opened for very backword areas, mostly tribal and border areas. The permissible limit of the loss is Rs. 2500 per annum per post office. He also mentioned that already the department had incurred loss every year to the tune of Rs. 1 crores during the last two years for the purpose. But still I should say that the border areas deserve much more attention. Having regard to the fact that the situation in the border is very difficult—there is the Pakistan menace, the refugee problem and other matters—I think much more attention should be given to the border areas. At least more telegraph and phonogram facilities should be there, so that speedy communications can be established for security and law and order purposes. The West Bengal-East Pakistan border is 1349 miles and there are the Assam and Tripura borders also, which are very long. I hope the department will pay greater attention to this border and proper measures should be taken to ensure the security and law and order there.

About rural areas, it is gratifying to note that a good number of post

offices have been already opened and are being opened now. Out of the total number of 12,966 post offices opened up to December, 1963, as many as 12061 post offices have been opened in the rural areas. Coming as I do from a rural part of the country, I find the eagerness of people for having more and more post offices. I can compare it even to their eagerness for opening a school in a village. Wherever there is a post office, it affords much facility even for illiterate persons to assemble there and get news about the outside world.

There is one matter which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. There is a rule that the distance between one post office and another should at least be three miles and the radial distance is taken into consideration. I think this should be revised. Generally there is no good road in the very remote parts of the country and people have to pass through circuitous routes from one place to another. Therefore, in place of radial distance the usual route distance should be taken into consideration and there should be a modification of this rule so that very remote parts of the country can be served by post offices.

The hon. Deputy Minister just now mentioned in his speech that Block Headquarters and Thana Headquarters are to be connected by telegraph offices. I think there are places which may not come under the category mentioned by him and the population may not reach the limit of 5000 which is prescribed for such facilities. But they are important places which require attention. I think those places should be connected with public call offices so that those places may be properly developed and they may have proper postal facilities.

About the training programme we are told, and it is also in the report, that there are two residential training centres now one in the northern zone at Saharanpur and the other at Baroda in the western zone. Two more are under consideration.

श्री कछवाय (देवास) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हाउस में क्वोरम नहीं है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : अब तो सिर्फ दो तीन मिनट रह गए हैं ।

Shri B. K. Das: May I continue, Sir?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Shri B. K. Das: I know that near Diamond Harbour there is some land belonging to the Postal Department—in Sarisa—where a residential training centre for the eastern zone can be established. I suggest that steps should be taken to establish that as soon as possible.

As regards the staff welfare measures mentioned almost by all the hon. Members, I would only say that some welfare measures should be extended to extra departmental employees also. Their number is as big as 1,57,676 as has been mentioned in the report, and probably no welfare measure is extended to these employees. This consideration should be given to them because they serve the post office on meagre salaries. Of course, they are not whole-timers, but still some consideration should be shown to them and their welfare should also be looked after.

I find that there is a provision for scholarships for technical training and also other kinds of training for the children of the employees. Some rationalisation should be brought about in this also, because in the case of scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes we find that for different branches of studies

[Shri B. K. Das]

and different incomes, there are different grades. I think that should be introduced in the scholarship scheme also.

Then, I come to another subject. Because the time at my disposal is short, I will be brief. I will take only one minute.

An hon. Member: Sir, it is already 5.30 P.M.

Mr. Chairman: Let him finish in a minute.

An hon. Member: Let him continue tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: All right. He may continue his speech tomorrow. Now the House stands adjourned.

17.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 26, 1964/Chaitra 6, 1886 (Saka)

GMGIPND—LS II—2658 (Ai) LSD— 8-4-64—980.